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AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, April 2.—"The Beggar Student" was chosen by Messrs. Shubert and Brady instead of one of the Gilbert and Sullivan operas as the spring attraction at the Casino, although the company that performed "Pinafore" and "The Pirates of Penzance" so praiseworthily has been kept intact, or nearly so, for the presentation of Millocker's comic opera. First and foremost, we have the unalloyed pleasure of seeing Mr. De Wolf Hopper in the best part he has had for years, for his General Ollendorf may be so described. His impersonation of the snuff-taking, fire-eating braggart who undertakes to humble the pride of the imperious Laura by marrying her to the beggar student affords the audience more delight, perhaps, than anything he has done since the days of "Wang," which is going a long way back and saying a good deal, because Mr. Hopper has placed a number of comic characterisations to his credit in the interim. Viewing such a piece as "The Beggar Student," revived, as it is, in such a thoroughly satisfactory manner at the Casino, one is impelled to draw comparisons between the past and the present, and wish that our prolific musical playwrights would (or could) turn out such durable compositions nowadays. It is more than twenty-five years since this comic opera was first performed in English at the Casino, but its charms seem as fresh as ever, and the opening performance called forth a chorus of critical and popular approval. As everyone knows, the music is delightful, and the strong feature of this revival is that the many tuneful airs are extremely well sung. Those who chiefly distinguish themselves in the latter respect are Messrs. George Macfarlane and Arthur Aldridge, Misses Blanche Duffield, Kate Condon, Anna Wheaton and Viola Gillette. There are one or two interpolations from other works of the same composer, but these have been judiciously chosen and serve to enhance the tunefulness of the score. Miss Wheaton's rendering of "Oh he Mamma" was greatly enjoyed and won well-deserved applause.

"Liberty Hall" has been revived by Mr. Charles Frohman to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the Empire Theatre. This four-act play by R. C. Carton was performed for the first time in America at the Empire Theatre on August 21, 1893, which means that in 1913 the play is practically new except to the "old-timers." Admirably acted as it is by each and every member of the company, Mr. Carton's comedy owes its success in this instance chiefly to the fact that the rôle of William Todman, the kindly and lovable old bookseller, is acted by Mr. Lennox Pawle. Londoners have seen Mr. Pawle in this character at the St. James's Theatre—in fact, it is named as one of his "favourite parts"—so they can fully understand our delight. Not to have seen Mr. Pawle's Todman would have meant missing one of the most faithful and enjoyable portrayals of character to be found on the contemporary stage. Another excellent embodiment, and one that is quite a factor in the success of the performance as a whole, is Mr. Wilfred Draycott's Briginshaw, the obnoxious character of the man being convincingly shown. The rôle of Mr. Owen is in the experienced hands of Mr. John Mason, who handles the part of the baronet in disguise with ease and authority. Miss Martha Hedman is a charming Blanche Chilworth, and Miss Charlotte Ives does well as her unsophisticated sister Amy; the Hon. Gerald Tanqueray being well represented by Mr. Julian L'Estrange. Miss Emily Dodd, who played Miss Hickson twenty years ago, again scores a success in the part, and Miss Ada Dwyer is amusing as the domineering servant Crafer. In other rôles Messrs. Sidney Herbert, Wigney Percyval, John Dugan and Willis Martin acquit themselves well. It is good news to the thousands of theatregoers who have enjoyed this revival that the next play at the Empire Theatre will be "The Amazons," originally produced in London at the Court Theatre on March 7, 1893.

Mr. George Fawcett, after winning success in London, was welcomed back to the local stage at the Astor Theatre on the 24th ult., and as Tom Whalen, a political "boss," added another fine characterisation to his long list of successful rôles. The play is entitled "A Man's Friends," and was written by Ernest Poole, who handles the theme of political corruption in an exceedingly forceful manner. The two principal characters are "Boss" Whalen and John McCloud, a district attorney, who is fighting the "system." Bribery has been used to defeat a building code which will reduce the profits of the speculative builders, and Hal Clark, who is engaged to the district attorney's daughter, has been the go-between for his best friend, Nicholas Vance, a "grafting" alderman, and "Boss" Whalen. Vance is sent to prison, but shields Clark. The latter marries Kate McCloud, and then, to force the district attorney out of the race for the Governorship, Whalen tells Mrs. Vance the name of the man who bribed her husband. Whalen's object is to force McCloud to protect his son-in-law for the sake of his daughter, but the district attorney refuses to do this despite his daughter's pleading. He resigns his office in order that he may defend his son-in-law, and learns that the latter cannot be convicted without involving the "man higher up," which means that much as his enemies would like to send Clark away, they dare not. The result is a compromise in which the difficulty of standing 'twixt love and duty is solved in a human sort of way, even if the dramatist "begs" the issue somewhat. The political characters are cleverly drawn and faithfully represented. Whalen is the sort of man who endears himself to everybody despite his crookedness, and Mr. Fawcett, of course, is quite at home in the part. His shafts of wit struck home and provoked much laughter. Mr. Frederick Burton's John McCloud was a praiseworthy portrayal. One of his lines, "Under no circumstances will I again be a candidate," and Whalen's retort, "That's the best way to begin to be one," tickled the audience immensely in view of the fact that Mr. Theodore Roosevelt occupied a box. Mr. Vincent Serrano as Hal Clark, Mr. Roy Fairchild as Nicholas Vance, Miss Lily Cahill as Mrs. Vance, and Miss Katherine Grey as Kate McCloud were all very good in their respective rôles and the play was favourably received.

Mr. Francis Wilson came to town last week and appeared in a new three-act comedy called "The Spiritualist," which has been written and staged by himself, and in which he assumed the title-rôle. Mr. Wilson's fun-making powers had full play in the character of a man who becomes a medium willy-nilly, and the audience laughed and applauded liberally. Stephen Atwell declares that he would "rather be a cockroach than a medium," but he can never escape from the terror and abhorrence inspired by the discovery of his extraordinary powers, these being the more unwelcome because they have separated him from the woman he loves. She has broken with him years before on discovering his peculiarities, and as Mrs. Eleanor Roywell has just returned to New York from England, being now a widow, young and rich, with a pretty little boy, who is being slowly poisoned by a doctor employed by the next-of-kin to remove the young heir. Gustav Schumacher, professor of natural science, having discovered that Atwell is mediumistic, arranges for a séance, and Atwell consents when the professor suggests that he (Atwell) may learn the mystery of the child's illness, and in so doing regain the mother's love. The séance is held in the professor's studio and some ingenious effects are produced by mechanical means, the convulsive movements of the walls and furniture and Atwell's terror provoking much merriment. In the last act Atwell defeats the plot to kill the child, whom he kidnaps from the private sanatorium of the villainous physician, and all ends happily. Mr. Wilson's humour borders on burlesque at times, but roars of laughter follow his antics, so he evidently knows "what the public wants." The play is to have but a brief run in this city, however, as another attraction for the theatre it now occupies is already announced.

"The Geisha" has been revived in a handsome manner and with an excellent cast by Mr. Arthur Hammerstein and the Messrs. Shubert at Weber and Field's Forty-fourth-street Theatre. Originally produced in London in 1896, this merry musical play was first performed here at Daly's Theatre in September of the same year and had a long run. Mr. Edwin Stevens, who appeared as the Marquis Imari, is playing the same part in the present revival, and Mr. "Jimmy" Powers, who was seen as Wun Hi when the piece was revived in 1898, again impersonates the tricky Chinaman. Miss Alice Zeppilli, recently in grand opera, won the singing honours as O Mimosa San, her rendering of "Jewel of Asia" and other popular numbers proving most enjoyable. Miss Lina Abarbanell was the Molly Seamore, and she too sang and danced delightfully. Mr. Carl Gantvoort as Lieut. Fairfax, Mr. Frank Pollock as Captain Katana, and Mr. Charles King as Dick Cunningham sang and acted their parts to perfection, Juliette being well represented by Miss Georgia Caine, and Lady Constance Wynne by Miss Pauline Hall. Handsome scenery and costumes were provided, as well as an excellent chorus and an enlarged orchestra, so that nothing was left undone to make the revival a complete success. And that the producers had not planned in vain was proved by the fact that nearly every number in the score was enthusiastically encored.

Mrs. Clive was originally servant to Miss Eleanor Knowles, afterwards Mrs. Young, mother to Mr. Thomas Young, who in 1774 appeared at Covent Garden Theatre as Macbeth, which he performed with great celebrity. When Mrs. Clive lived with Miss Knowles, who then lodged at Mrs. Snell's, a fan-painter, in Church-row, Houndsditch, Mr. Watson for many years box-keeper at Drury Lane Theatre, kept the Bell Tavern, directly opposite to Mrs. Snell's. At this house was held the Beefsteak Club, instituted by Mr. Beard, Mr. Dunstall, Mr. Woodward, etc. Kitty Rafter, afterwards Mrs. Clive, while one day washing the steps of the front door, began to sing, and the windows of the clubroom being open, they were instantly crowded by the company, who were all enchanted with her natural grace and simplicity. This circumstance alone led her to the stage, under the auspices of Mr. Beard and Mr Dunstall.

Whether the notion of using Tchaïkovsky's music for the farewell renderings of "Hamlet" by Mr. Forbes-Robertson originated in the mind of the great actor himself or was Mr. Percy Fletcher's has not transpired, writes Mr. M. Montagu Nathan in the "Musical Standard." It was in a sense a felicitous one for, as this music is not of a particularly high order, opportunities of hearing it—that is, of hearing the "overture-fantasia" from which the incidental numbers are chiefly derived—in the concert-room, are sure to become rarer than they are even now, and obviously the proper place to hear music of the incidental and melodramatic class is in the theatre. But the traditional attitude towards all music in the theatre remains, in face of every contrary contention, an insuperable obstacle to its proper enjoyment; one might go further and point out that the overture to "Hamlet" was, at the second performance, practically inaudible—inaudible, at least, as music. Not more than half the occupants of the stalls had arrived when the overture began and as the attendants had not been instructed to respect the punctual, they indulged in a noisy welcome to the belated. The announcement that Tchaïkovsky was to be responsible for part of the entertainment was given reasonable prominence in the programme, and the importance of this circumstance seems to have dawned upon part of the audience, after awhile, for one of the entr'actes was applauded. It is unnecessary to labour the point as to the inexplicable fashion in which theatre music is regarded by those who pay for it, for the most tolerant must agree that when, in addition to the racket of the audience's arrival, the overture is punctuated by the sanctioned bawling of loud-voiced programme-vendors there must indeed be something very rotten in the state of theatre management—from the æsthetic point of view. If, therefore, Mr. Forbes-Robertson did originate the idea of employing Tchaïkovsky's music in order to enhance the artistic value of the production, he does not seem to have been at great pains to secure a hearing for the composer. If, on the other hand, Mr. Fletcher conceived the plan, his faith in the possibility of gaining an appreciative attention for serious music in the theatre is deserving of ultimate reward — it is of a quality which merits consideration as a religion!

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS).

ABBREVIATIONS: In order to effect a saving in space the following abbreviations are used in these columns: P. (Proprietor); P. & M. (Proprietor and Manager); M. D. (Managing Director); L. & M. (Lessee and Manager); M. (Manager); G. M. (General Manager); A. M. (Acting Manager); Asst. M. (Assistant Manager); R. M. (Resident Manager); B. M. (Business Manager); T. M. (Touring Manager); Mus. D. (Musical Director); Mus. C. (Musical Conductor); S. (Secretary); S. & T. (Secretary and Treasurer).

ABERAVON—PORT TALBOT.

GRAND THEATRE. — P. & M., Mr. David Jones.—This week: Gladys Hooley, in instrumental scena, "Fiddle and I"; Hicks and Yorke, in singing and dancing speciality; Fred Leyton, light comedian; and pictures.

VINT'S PALACE.—P., Vint's Theatres, Ltd.: M., Mr. Wm. Mitchell.—This week: The Coronets, singing and dancing troupe; Elroy, armless wonder; pictures.

ABERDEEN.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE. — P., Messrs. Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham; G. M., Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. H. Adair Nelson; Mus. D., Mr. A. W. Loseby. —This week (once nightly): Mr. Durrant Swan presents "A Country Girl." The company includes: Mr. Douglas Phillips, Mr. Leon Simkin, Mr. Percy Everard, Mr. Frank W. Manger, Mr. C. S. Cartwright, Mr. Clifford Barrett, Mr. A. H. Lopresti, Mr. Jack Slater, Mr. Herbert Jones, Mr. Frank Clarke, Mr. Arthur Staples, Miss Monica Ellestree, Miss Ethel Negretti, Miss Florence Foster, Miss Paula Ferneau, Miss Lily Holden, Miss Maud Jennings, Miss Gertrude Borton, Miss Florence Seymour, Miss Gwen Ross, Miss Ivy Proudfoot. T. M., Mr. E. R. Beaumont. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.15. Next week: "The Glad Eye."

PALACE.—L., Tivoli (Aberdeen), Ltd.; M. D. & Licensee, Mr. Walter Gilbert; A. M., Mr. F. Lawson Clark.—This week (twice nightly): John Donald, in "A Scottish Exile's Dream"; Sandy Donaldson, comedian; Wyotti, juggler; and pictures.

TIVOLI. — P., The Tivoli (Aberdeen), Ltd.; M. D., and Licensee, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—This week (twice nightly): Peter Donald and Meta Carson in "Alex McLean's Dream"; Aerial Budds, trapeze artistes; Sunny Sarah Hicks; Wal Croft, supported by Kathleen Naughton, in "The Last Roll Call"; Daisy Sloan, the dainty Scot; Hampton and Bauman, in character duets; Brothers Weston, entertainers; the Willons, comedy cyclists; and pictures.

ABERTILLERY.

NEW METROPOLE THEATRE. — P. & M., Messrs. C. J. Seaborn and Bob Evans; Mus. D., Mr. F. Drake.—This week: Cavaliere F. Castellano's Grand Opera Co. Monday: "Il Trovatore"; Tuesday, "Faust"; Wednesday, "Cavalleria Rusticana" and "I Pagliacci"; Thursday, "Rigoletto"; Friday, "Carmen"; Saturday, "Maritana." The company includes: Signore Protti, Barone, Gorreta, Ferrer, Evarti, Ovardi, Milli, Boffini, Hayes, and Signori D'Ottavi, Barterra, Valente, Vail, Terrasi, Vittori, Quintina, and Fra[illegible].

PAVILION.—P., Messrs. A. Tilney and Sons; G. M., Mr. E. Tilney; M., Mr. E. Pryce.—This week (twice nightly): Eight Welsh Miners, in descriptive song scena; Lomax and Cissie; Newhouse and Ward; Trio of Trick Cyclists; and pictures.

ACCRINGTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Mr. William Wilson; R. M., Mr. Fred W. Green.—This week: Mr. Edwin T. Heys' company in "Hindle Wakes." The company includes: Mr. William H. Dewhurst, Miss Beatrice Fielden Kaye, Miss Florence Rutter, Miss Di Forbes, Miss Hilda Kenyon, Miss Ida Warrington, Mr. Charles Freeman, Mr. Frank Howard, and Mr. George Keene. T. M., Mr. Frank Howard.

NEW HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Fred Willmot; R. M., Mr. J. Windsor Stevenson.—This week: The Flying Hartwells, in speciality; Dave Ferguson, Scottish tenor vocalist; Harley and West, comedy duo; James St. Jine, speciality artiste; and pictures.

EMPIRE PALACE.—P., Mr. William Wilson; M., Mr. Harold Wilson.—This week: Mr. George Thornton's orchestra; selections on the gramophone, and pictures.

QUEEN'S HALL.—M., Mr. Emile Aspden.—This week: Pictures only.

ALDERSHOT.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. and M., Mr. Clarence Sounes; G. M., Mr. Jack Gladwin; A. M., Mr. Percy Barrow.—This week: F. Marriott Watson and James Ussher's Co. is appearing in "The Face at the Window." The cast includes: Misses Constance Glenabyne, Lalla Shelton, and Maudie Grayson, Messrs. Roy Fortesque, Gilbert Hall, James Weston, R. Campbell Fletcher, George Scully, Frederick Monckton, Arthur Chivers, Frank H. Fortesque, Arthur Hellier, William Yates, George Lockwood, Robert Hamilton, and W. Tetlow. Next week: Messrs. Polini and Melford's Co., in "The Silver King."

HIPPODROME.—P. and M., Mr. Clarence Sounes; A. M., Mr. Cyril Royce.—This week: Marie Lo's "Dresden China"; Yamamoto, in a Japanese rope and wire act; Four Sensational Boises, in an aerial act; Lizzie Glenroy, Scotch comedienne and dancer; the Dennisons, comedians and dancers; Sisters Holman, duettists and dancers; Dulcet Trio, vocalists; Alfred Willis, comedian; Mysterious Marko, conjurer.

ASHINGTON.

PAVILION.—P., Hirst Pavilion Co., R. M., Mr. Frank Percival.—This week (twice nightly): Newman and Knight, in "A Juggler at Home"; Snow Queen, dancer; Rall and Tando, in comedy act; Darby and McClester, skaters; Sisters Mack, duettists; Tom Franks, ventriloquist; and pictures.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner & M., Mr. Chas. Revill; A. M., Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.; Mus. D., Mr. W. C. Halton.—This week (twice nightly): Derwent Hall Caine's company in "The Manxman." The company includes: Mr. Herbert Humber, Mr. Victor Vincent, Mr. Harold Clare, Mr. Lionel Balmont, Mr. Herbert Roxby, Mr. Herbert Dean, Mr. Albert Meux, Mr. R. C. Howe, Mr. Charles Brooke, Miss Leta Scarlett, Miss Dora Evans, Miss Florrie Hall, Miss Esme Lee. T. M., Mr. Lionel Balmont.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. John Boyle; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Heck.—This week (twice nightly): Olga and the Diving Norins; Lillian Carter, soprano; Truro and Breece, comedians and dancers; the Eight Seaside Girls, vocalists and dancers; Bob and Jennie Leonard, comedy artistes; Charles Hatch, comedian; Bart and Bart; Polly and Day in comedy act.

PICTURE PAVILION.—P., Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. Arthur Downes; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Coleman.—This week (twice nightly): Those Four Boys, vocalists; pictures. Matinées, Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday, at 2.30.

BACUP.

PUBLIC HALL. — P., Messrs. Glenville and Osmond; M., Mr. J. H. Clay.—This week: Morris and West, comedians and dancers; Baby Arthers, vocalist; and pictures.

OLYMPIA.—P., Messrs. Cook and Co. — This week; Rousby and Rene, in sketch; and pictures.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

ROYALTY THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. Hugh Robertson; R. M., Mr. George Stone.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Arthur Hardy presents "The Speckled Band." The company includes: Mr. E Vassall Vaughan, Miss Dorothy Croft, Miss Agnes Marey, Mr. Maurice Drew, Mr. James E. Horstead, Mr. Geo. W. Barnes, Mr. Herbert Bradford, Mr. V. Franklin, Mr. A. King, Mr. Victor Lusk, Mr. H. E. Ainger, Mr. Herbert Bradford, Master Fredk. Reynders, Mr. Gerald Rodgers, Mr. A. Corney Grain. T. M., Mr. Martin Jarry. Next week: "Jelf's."

TIVOLI.—L. and M., Signor Pepi; R. M., Mr. Emilius Hill.—This week (twice nightly): The Motley Four; Agnes Tina, mimic; J. W. Gallagher, comedian; Victoria Campbell, Scotch singer; Four Astors, rag-time singers and dancers; J. W. Warner, ventriloquist; Minnie Paget, concertina player; Buck Baker, cowboy.

BATH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Egbert Lewis; A. M., Mr. Lewis A. Long; Mus. D., Mr. G. Alexander.—"The Eiderdown Quilt." Cast includes: Mr. A. Bertram Fortt, Mr. Stuart Carter, Mr. F. G. Whittuck, Mr. Guy B. D. Cracroft, Mr. C. F. Whittuck, Miss Macintire, Miss Norah Brown, Miss Meta Rogers, Miss E. Thomas-Peter, Miss Adair.

PALACE.—L., Mr. W. S. Pearce; D., Mr. Wm. Toussell and W. S. Pearce; M., Mr. Leslie Fairfax.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Eric Mayne in "Honour is Satisfied"; Nan Chester, comedienne; Danny Roary, comedian; Fred Wildon in phonofiddleodities; Amor and Roma in "Novel Illustrations on Board"; H. W. Bowers in musical monologues; the Meymotts present "In the Future"; and pictures.

BATLEY.

HIPPODROME.—L. & M., Mr. Charles Draycott.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Jack McKenzie presents "Somebody's Sweetheart." The company includes: Jack McKenzie, Edward Rawlinson, Bernard Mervyn, George Power, Fred Owen, Dor Phyliss, Miss Maizie Leon, Miss Stella Miller, Miss Edie James, Miss Dora Selby, Miss Hilda Knight, Miss Ada Reed, Miss Viola Rene. T. M., Mr. John Holden. Matinée, Saturday, pictures, at 2.30.

BELFAST.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. Fred W. Warden; A. M., Mr. James M. McCann.—Monday commenced second and concluding week of engagement of the D'Oyly Carte Répertoire Opera Company, when "The Yeomen of the Guard" was produced. As Wilfred Shadbolt Mr. Fred Billington created much merriment with his exceedingly droll impersonation and Mr. Henry A. Lytton's conception of the rôle of Jack Point reflected the utmost credit on him, his vocal items affording much pleasure. Miss Olive Turner furnished a clever impersonation of Elsie Maynard, gaining an enviable success; and the rôle of Phœbe Meryll was done full justice to by Miss Beatrice Boarer. Mr. Strafford Moss ably filled the rôle of Colonel Fairfax; and Mr. Leicester Tunks acquitted himself with distinction as Sergeant Meryll. As Leonard Meryll Mr. Henry Herbert was in every sense admirable, and it would indeed be difficult to excel Mr. Sydney Granville as Sir Richard Cholmondeley. Other rôles were sustained by Miss Louie Rene, Miss Hilda Cross, and Messrs. Hugh Blackmore, George Sinclair, Allen Morris, and Fred Drawater. During the week "H.M.S. Pinafore," "Trial by Jury," "Princess Ida," "The Gondoliers," and "Patience" have also been performed; and tonight (Saturday) "Iolanthe" is the attraction. Next week: Musical comedy, "Peggy."

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Warden, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Fred W. Warden.—The attraction here is "Life's Sweetest Sins," produced by Mr. T. Arthur Jones' company. Mr. T. Arthur Jones filled the rôle of Captain Harold Marston with credit to himself, and the clever actress Miss Marie Daventry gained an enviable success as Doreen Rivers, the heiress. As Dr. Colbrooke Mr. Charles Clifford furnished a powerful impersonation; and the rôle of his confederate, Kimberley Coutts, was realistically portrayed by Mr. Robert Sawin. Miss Jeannie Cuthbert deserves a line for her excellent interpretation of Fay Colbrooke; and a capital impersonation of Bob Tanner was supplied by Mr. Joe Hodson. Mr. Arthur P. Holland did full justice to the rôle of Ernie Woodstone; and Miss Annie Wynne was a vivacious and attractive Bess Grayson. Other rôles were adequately sustained by Messrs. Arthur Prescott, Percy Meade, Jas. Keppel, John Levey, John Walker, etc. Next week: "The Sheriff of Lonesome Pine."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — P., Alexandra Theatre Co., Ltd.; R. M. D., Mr. J. Leicester Jackson. —The attraction here this week is the favourite musical comedy, "A Trip to Chinatown," presented by Mr. Harold Wagner and Miss Ada Tilley's company. As Welland Strong Mr. Harry Benet acquitted himself with distinction, and the rôle of Ben Gay could not have been in better hands than those of Mr. Edward De Vere. Miss Ada Tilley was vivacious and sparkling as Mrs. Guyer, the widow; and Miss Lillian Drake was capital as Flirt, Mrs. Guyer's maid. Miss Marrie Churchill was charming as Tiny Gay, and a like remark applies to Mrs. Dorrie Williams, who appears as Isabel, Ben Gay's niece. As Rashleigh Gay Mr. Arthur St. Clair was undoubtedly successful and the rôle of his friend Norman Blood was in the safe hands of Mr. Frank Richie. Mr. Richard C. Wagner was amusing as Slavin Payne; and other rôles received careful treatment at the hands of Miss Sybil Mudie, Miss Evelyn Petherick, and Messrs. R. Churchill, Fred Young, and B. Dempsey. Mr. J. Melville Gillies skilfully directed the orchestra. Next week: "The Colombo Girl."

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Fred Willmot; R. M., Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The leading attraction here is provided by that able comedian Mr. Lawrence Brough, who, with his talented company, appears with unmeasured success in "Confusion." The Three Collegians, who appear in "A Concert Rehearsal," are the happy possessors of good voices, which they know how to use; and Harrigan and Holt, old favourites here, create the heartiest laughter with their comedy act, "Inspector and Policeman." Bert Errol is a wonderful female impersonator; and also billed are Mona Vivian, vocalist and dancer; Cornalla and Edie; Real McKays, in "The Soldier's Return"; and the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—G. M., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. A. C. Laidler. —The star here is Miss Cleo Peel, a talented comedienne and impressionist, whose reception on Monday was most flattering. Mr. Fred Keeton is a funny comique, with some up-to-date methods; and Miss Ray Espinosa is an accomplished danseuse. Also billed are the Amis Trio, in their comedy act; Marie Kay, comedienne and dancer; Pueblo and Cropp, comedy artistes; and the Bioscope.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. Will White.—The vaudeville element here is sustained by Chorley and Connor, Scotch comedians and dancers; and George Brame, the college boy, in song, story, and music. Pictures complete.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—G. M., Mr. Herbert Rogers.—This week: Bryden Currie and Bristles, a quaint comedy team; and pictures.

NEW PRINCESS THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. Terris Pounds.—This week: Bob Robinson, Scotch comedian; and pictures.

BIRKENHEAD.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole P. & M., Mr. W. W. Kelly; A. M., Mr. Herbert M. King.—This week (once nightly): The Birkenhead Dramatic Society present "The Second in Command." Cast includes: Captain E. R. M. English, Mr. Alan D. Eshelby, Mr. H. E. Brown, Mr. S. C. Marriott, Mr. M. S. Hanmer, Mr. H. D. Pain, Mr. G. L. Morris, Mr. G. S. Prentice, Mr. C. M. Kay, Mr. A. R. Tipton, Mr. R. P. Humphrys, Mr. H. W. P. Bennette, Mr. J. A. Wolff, Miss Maud Dixon, Miss D. Mason-Hutchinson, Miss Joan Eshelby. Next week: "Man and Superman."

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; D. of Entertainments, Mr. E. Dottridge; R. M., Mr. Frank Weston; Mus. D., Mr. R. Tomlinson.—This week (twice nightly): Miss Mary Austin and Mr. C. Vivian Edmonds' company in "Her Kingdom of Love" (on Monday and Tuesday); "The Cotton Spinner" (on Wednesday and Thursday); and "The King's Romance" (on Friday and Saturday), with Miss Austin and Mr. Edmonds in the principal characters.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole P. & M., Mr. D. J. Clark; A. M., Mr. John Keating; Mus. D., Mr. Ernest Denny.—This week: Conrad and Whidden, rag-time artistes; Adam Tomlinson, comedian; Charles Norton, comedian, in "The Old Firm"; the Rawsons, entertainers; Dave Carter, vocalist; Sisters Marion, duettists; Lawrence Barclay, character comedian; Miss Evelyn Bergen, vocalist and dancer; the Westwoods, cyclists; the O'Gorman Brothers, comedians and dancers; and pictures.

BIRMINGHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Theatre Royal (Birmingham), Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Tom B. Davis; G. M., Mr. Philip Rodway; Asst. M., Mr. F. W. Smith.—Mr. George Dance's company is here in "Drake." Miss Alice Philips is a very imposing Queen Elizabeth, and Mr. Frank E. Petley gives a vigorous interpretation of the character of Drake. Miss Constance Peissier is very good as Elizabeth Sydenham.

PRINCE OF WALES.—P., Prince of Wales Theatre (Birmingham), Ltd.; M. D., Messrs. Milton Bode and John Hart; A. M., Mr. Henry Johnston.—"Ready Money" is a very amusing comedy. Mr. Fred Tooze is very good as Stephen Baird, and Mr. Mark Blow is very amusing as the unscrupulous Jackson Ives. Clever work is also done by Mr. L. Baskcomb Ward and Mr. Frank Hamilton.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—P., Mr. Leon Salberg; A. M., Mr. W. T. Guest.—A good picture of life in a colliery village is given in "The Collier's Lass," which tells the story of a girl's downfall and the efforts of her collier lover to save her. Miss Grace Copley is very good as the collier's daughter, and the other parts are in capable hands. Plenty of humour is provided by Mr. J. Newton Cowling and Miss Lynn Darlington.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—P., Messrs. Moss' Empires; L., Mr. T. Morton Powell; A. M., Mr. H. E. Cox.—By arrangement with Sir George Alexander, Mr. Frank Weathersby presents "The Thief," a play full of thrilling incidents, culminating in a very impressive scene. The company is a good one, prominent work being done by Messrs. Roland Daniel, G. Delaforce, S. P. Goodyer-Keller. A. Alves, and Miss Dorrie Roberts. During the latter part of the week "The Witness for the Defence" is presented by the same company.

ASTON THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Mr Charles Barnard; M., Mr. Lewis Chapman.—"Only a Mill Girl" is proving attractive here. Mr. Jack McCaig and Miss Daisy Cook are a capital hero and heroine.

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. Moss' Empires; A. M., Mr. W. H. Bebby; Asst. M., Mr. P. Whitton.—Jack and Evelyn provide plenty of fun in a variety of vaudeville tit-bits; Little Kelly is a very eccentric comedian; George Carney presents an amusing sketch, "The Fool of the Force"; Refala and Cæcilia give a clever musical act; Edgar Curtis presents "stars" in Liliputian form; Rebla is a very quaint eccentric juggler; Stella and Stanley sing and dance on novel lines; and Marie Keene and Kathleen Kay are smart comediennes.

GRAND.—P., Messrs. Moss' Empires; A. M., Mr. J. E. Coward; Assist. M., Mr. P. Hutchison.—"The Eternal Waltz" is a fascinating musical comedy, in which Bert Coote finds plenty of opportunity for fun. Twelve lady instrumentalists add to the general brilliant effect. Gilday and Fox present some humorous rag-time parodies; the High-Davos Trio are clever trick roller-skaters; Elsie Roby adds considerably to the enjoyment; Albert Rees is a smart entertainer; Little Ganty an amusing comedian; and the Falcons are clever comedy acrobats.

HIPPODROME.—P., New Hippodrome (Birmingham), Ltd.; M., Mr. Ben de Frece; R. M., Mr. H. Hamilton.—"That Coloured Five" introduce some delightfully quaint melodies; "Marked Money" is a sketch with a thrilling police story; "What Every Woman Ought to Know" shows the use of ju-jitsu; Ray Ford follows up her pantomime triumphs with another success; Henton and Le Triska present a clever novelty; Frank Bush tells some capital stories; Josephine Langley is a skilful ventriloquist; F. V. St. Clair is a good vocal comedian; and Miss Lil Sprightly is a charming comedienne.

GAIETY.—L. & M., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; A. M., Mr. Walter Bellian.—Jock Whiteford is a Scotch comedian with a breezy style; The Potts Brothers present an amusing comedy sketch; the Creedons indulge in freak boxing and ball punching; the Eretto Troupe are clever hand jumpers and acrobats; Mlle. Henri and partner present a good equilibristic act; John Martin uses an excellent voice to advantage; Sisters St. Julian sing and dance smartly; and Will Harris is a good comedian.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—P., Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Director of Entertainments, Mr. S. T. Newsome; A. M., Mr. T. H. Middleton.—Chas. Austin is very funny in his farcical sketch, "The Bombshell"; Ray and Zack are two very amusing juveniles; the Four Tressilians are daring acrobatic cyclists; Stacey and Williams have an amusing cross-talk interlude; Owen Clark's magic is good; Dan Rodney is a smart comedian; Miss Leonhard has a sweet soprano voice; and Carlton Boys are neat dancers.

NEW PALACE.—P., Messrs. Moss' Empires; A. M., Mr. George Anthony.—Pictures; and Haydee's Marionettes; Mme. Hettie Courtney's Juveniles; and Vincent Kelway, elocutionist

BISHOP AUCKLAND.

EDEN THEATRE.—L. & G. M., Mr. Chas. Elderton; B. M., Mr. F. Steeles.—This week: Miss Hilda Beverley presents "The White Girl Slave." The company includes: Messrs. Frank Fenn and Syd Clayton, and the Misses Dorothy B. Kirke and Grace Carew.

HIPPODROME. — M. D., Mr. F. W. Ogden Smith; R. M., Mr. H. Warren.—Pictures and variety.

BLACKBURN.

PALACE.—P. & M. D., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. Arthur Burton; M. D., Mr. J. W. Sykes.—This week: Wee Georgie Wood in "The Nursery" and "Baby in India"; Cosgrove and Burns, vocalists; Johnny Dwyer, comedian; Gillen, ventriloquist; the Rochester Sextette, vocalists and dancers; Frances and Gladys Henderson, instrumentalists; the Aza Trio of vocalists and dancers; pictures.

PRINCES.—Sole P., Mr. E. H. Page; A. M., Mr. John Ersser; Asst. M., Mr. Albert Hargreaves; Mus. D., Mr. W. Haydock.—This week, Mr. Frederick Baugh's company in "The Stepmother." Cast includes: Frank Beresford, Dorothy Milne, Sadie Southern, Frank Denis, Fred De Vere, Clifford Marle, Dick Cruikshanks, May Emery, Cissie Clarke, George Fredericks, May Davis.

STAR.—M. D., Messrs. Strong and Taylor.—Weslie and Leslie, vocalists; and pictures.

ALEX. HALL.—The Dowry Company.—Jack Smart, light comedian; and pictures.

VICTORIA HALL.—P. & M., Mr. John Charnley.—Fred E. Rayne, comedian; Seymour and Mead, vocalists; and pictures.

CENTRAL HALL.—P. & M., Mr John Bradley.—Pictures only.

EXCHANGE HALL.—L., Messrs. Riding, Hardcastle, and Rawlinson; A. M., Mr. Kerrigan.—Nan Terry, comedienne; Pat O'Connor, vocalist and dancer; and pictures.

BLACKPOOL.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE. — G. M., Mr. Jno. R. Huddlestone. — This week (once nightly): The Royde Repertoire Company present, Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday evenings, "Trilby," preceded by "Bamboozling." Tuesday evening, Wednesday matinée, Thursday evening, Wednesday matinée, Thursday and Friday evenings. Mr. Frank Royde, Mr. Francis J. Duguid, Mr. Edgar G. Wood, Mr. William Daunt, Mr. R. Nelme Grasswell, Mr. Arthur Fayne, Mr. Frank Milray, Mr. Charles Wiseman, Mr. Ernest Scott, Miss Macdonald Martin, Miss Agnes Gunn, Miss Eve Bates, Miss Marie Ramuz, Miss Haidee Gunn. T. M., Mr. William Daunt. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2 p.m. Next week, second week of the Royde Repertoire Company.

GRAND THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; A. M., Mr. Percy Harrop.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. Sydney Bransgrove and N. C. Slaughter present "Looking for Trouble." The company includes: Mr. Robert Rivers, Mr. Keith Shepherd, Mr. Macintosh Clyde, Mr. Dick Webb, Miss Verita Vivien, Miss Dorothy Bowden, Miss Charity Wynne, Mr. Lionel Howard, Mr. Bertram Burleigh, Mr. James McWilliam. Preceded by "Jerry and a Sunbeam." Next week: "Allah's Orchard."

PALACE.—G. M., Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; A. M., Mr. Fred Waller; Mus. D., Mr. Frank H. Jepson. —This week (once nightly): Carmen Turia, Spanish singer; the Romps; Julian Ross, comedian and actor-vocalist; Reno, comedy cyclist; Rich Hayes, comedian; Rimmer and Beaumont; the Zanfrettas, equilibrists; Gilbert Payne, comedian; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

BOLTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Bolton Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. F. Elliston; A. M., Mr. John Moncur.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George Edwardes presents "Gipsy Love." The company includes: Mr. Peter A. Gawthorne, Mr. Norman Greene, Mr. Arthur Brooke, Mr. Louis Bradfield, jun., Mr. Alfred Henry, Mr. Arthur A. Jenner, Mr. Cameron Carr, Mr. Lionel Victor, Miss Mary Ridley, Miss Connie St. Clair, Miss Violet Vivian, Miss Mabel Hirst, Miss Maidie Andrews, Miss Ethel Erskine. T. M., Mr. Percy J. Purdey. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.30. Next week: The Cavaliere F. Castellano Italian Grand Opera Co.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Bolton Theatre and Entertainments Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. F. Elliston; A. M., Mr. Alf. Booth.—This week (twice nightly): King and Benson, comedy duo; Bobby Leech; George Doonan, comedian and dancer; Daisy Le Roy, comedienne and vocalist; the Claymore Trio, vocalists and dancers; Maudie Baker and her coloured entertainers; the Paulastos; Minnie Hunt and Rhys Thomas, in comedy duologue; Violet Lloyd and Horace Lane; and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—P., Hippodrome (Bolton), Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. Arthur R. Harrison.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Walter Howard presents "Her Love Against the World." The company includes: Mr. Edmund Kennedy, Miss Rossie St. John, Mr. Lewis Gilbert, Mr. W. H. Hallatt, Mr. Henry Hallatt, Mr. Charles Whitlock, Mr. Percy Hewitt, Mr. Nelson White, Mr. Archibald Lynds, Mr. Fred Acton, Mr. J. Fulton Millar, Mr. A. J. Moss, Mr. Philip Croyden, Miss Blanche Steele, Miss Violette May, Miss Millicent Hallatt, Miss Hetty Ferguson, and Miss Mary Pemberton. T. M., Mr. Fred Acton.

BOOTLE.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—P., Pennington Estate Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Harry Pennington; Mus. D., Mr. Tom Shaw. — This week (once nightly): Messrs. Moreton and Heath's company in "Our Miss Gibbs." T. M., Mr. Otho Hazlewood. The company includes: Miss Connie Emerald, Mr. Sinclair Holden, Mr. Howard Leslie, Mr. Wilfred Norman, Mr. Benson North, Mr. F. Le Maitre, Mr. G. Lennox, Mr. W. Forbes, Mr. Fred. Bentley, Mr. J. Walton, Mr. Chris. Wren, Miss Yvonne Betts, Miss Nan Rutland, Miss Aubrey Ashton, Miss Mary Collier, Miss Gladys Glynn, Miss Dolly Townsend, Miss Nan Pearson, Miss Carmen Woods, Miss E. Holmes, Miss Ida Lorraine, Miss D. Crichton, Miss D. Gardener, and Miss W. Develin. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.30. Next week: "The Cotton Spinner."

APOLLO THEATRE.—L., New Apollo Syndicate; M. D., Mr. R. L. Moore; G. M., Mr. Ludwig Blattuer.—This week: Charley Harvey; and pictures.

BOSCOMBE.

HIPPODROME.—South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; M. D., Walter de Frece; R. M., H. S. Charlton.—This week (twice nightly): The De Mayos comediennes and dancers; the Bell-Hattons, musical experts; Forest Tell, delineator; T. Elder Hearn, the actor-illusionist, presents "The Romance of a Studio," the laziest juggler on earth, and the millionaire entertainer; Brothers Leo, comedians; and pictures.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole P., Messrs. David Allen and Sons; Sole L., the Executors of the late Frederick Mouillott; R. M., Mr. Hubert Dunbar.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. Vedrenne and Eadie present "Milestones." The company includes: Mr. Frederick Groves, Mr. J. Patric Curwen, Mr. Ernest Graham, Mr. John Howell, Mr. Gordon Ash, Mr. Paul Wynter, Mr. John Killner, Mr. Henry Armstrong, Miss Hilda Francks, Miss Muriel Pope, Miss Marie Wright, Miss Grace Croft, Miss Dorothy Wood, Miss Esty Marsh. T. M., Mr. E. H. Bull. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.45. Next week: "The Chocolate Soldier."

WINTER GARDENS.—The Municipal Orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Dan Godfrey, Hon. R. A. M.; Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, at 3 and 8; Wednesday, at 8. Wednesday, at 3 p.m.: Piano and violin recital by Vernon Warner, pianist, and Miss Daisy Kennedy, Australian violinist. Saturday, at 3 and 8: Miss Margaret Cooper, in her popular songs at the piano; duets by Miss Marie Stuart and Donald Fergusson, and (evening only), Besoni, in his conjuring entertainment. Each evening, and Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday afternoons: Miss Marie Stuart and Mr. Donald Fergusson. Each evening, and Tuesday and Friday afternoons: Besoni, entertainer and ventriloquist.

BRADFORD

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Mr. John Hart; M., Mr. James Richardson.—In aid of the local charities and by permission of Mr. George Dance, the Bradford Amateur Thespians are this week presenting the comic opera, "Veronique," under the stage-direction of Mr. Edwin Bryan. There was a large audience present on Monday night, and the representation was marked by considerable vocal excellence, Miss Amy Houlden distinguishing herself particularly as the Countess of Champ Azur; Helene de Solange was brightly represented by Miss Cissie Connell, Mr. M. Kellett made a dignified Florestan de Valaincourt, Mr. Syd Howard invested the part of Monsieur Coquenard with excellent humour, and he had able support from Miss Mary Bottomley as Mme Coquenard. The chorus and orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Charles Scott, proved very efficient, and the work of the amateurs was heartily appreciated.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—P., Mr. F. Laidler; G. M., Mr. N. Hepworth; A. M., Mr. F. Yearsley.—It is a long time since Mr. Lester Collingwood's sensational drama, "When London Sleeps," was last presented here, but its power to interest and attract has not diminished, as was evidenced on Monday night last, when the piece, which was finely staged, had a hearty reception at the hands of a big audience. The company is Mr. Tom H. Taylor's, and they give an admirable representation of the drama and make the most of the exciting, if extravagant, situations it contains; Miss Florence Haiton is a great success in the rôle of Queenie Carruthers; Mr. H. T. Wood bears himself well in a vigorous portrayal of David Engleheart; Mr. Charles Dickens is effective as the villain, Captain Rodney Haynes, whose accomplice, Hilda Carrode, is cleverly represented by Miss Florence Dalton. In the juvenile part of Leila, little Madge Hope is excellent; Mr. J. E. Abbott is capital as P.C. Stone; Mr. V. Mason as Sammy Blythe and Miss Grace Emery as Carrie Jones provide some good comedy, and the rest of the big cast is efficiently filled

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Percival Craig.—"Flats." Mr. Fred Karno's latest production, is presented here this week with considerable success; the company supporting Mr. Fred Edwards in the character of the Hon. Billy Browning is a capable one, and the fun, which is continued through three scenes at a whirlwind pace, is uproarious; the staging of the sketch is excellent. Alexandre and Bertie are graceful and clever in an aerial equilibristic turn; there is some novel comedy in the turns presented both by Dale and O'Malley, comedians; and Cromo and Hamilton, a burlesque duo; Susie Belmore sings finely and acts daintily in her scena with four gentlemen; Lulu Williams is a charming little juvenile comedienne; Vasco, "the mad musician," plays delightful snatches of music at a whirlwind pace on twenty-one different instruments; Rachel Lowe, comedienne, submits acceptably some new songs: and the pictures are very entertaining.

PALACE.—L., Mr. F. Macnaghten; M., Mr. Will Jackson.—Fred Karno presents here this week a revised version of "Mumming Birds," and the company supporting Edgar Cooke as the Drunk and Jimmy Russell as the precocious boy, keep the uproarious fun going with a vengeance. With absurd mechanical effects, a fine burlesque on juggling is submitted cleverly by Zellini; with vivacity and grace Arthur's Eight Model Maids dance and sing, and there is some clever step-dancing by Harold Heath. The Pasquali Brothers give a clever entertainment as acrobats and equilibrists, and the excellent company also includes Lilian Wesson, Irish vocalist; Master Harry Clark, juvenile comedian and dancer; and the pictures.

BRIDLINGTON.

ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE.—M. for the Corporation, Mr. Charles Palmer.—This week (twice daily, in the Grand Pavilion): Signor Enrico Scoma and his grand orchestra, in classical and popular promenade concerts. Vocalist for the week, Miss Helen Fayrebanks, soprano. Each evening, with matinées Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, Mr. Ernest Lord's talented vocal combination The Excelsiors, including Misses Nora O'Malley, Iris Elverton, and Alice Singleton; Messrs. Harker Holt, Frank M. Quinn, and Arthur Guilford, with Mr. Ernest Lord at the piano.

NEW SPA AND GARDENS.—M., Mr. R. C. Luxton.—This week: Catlin's renowned Royal Pierrots, including Sid Frere, A. McAllister, Golly Glyn, Harry Mitchell, T. Braham-Fox, Frank A. Terry, Harry Hurst, Willie Manders, and Reggie Belmont.

BRIGHTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Brighton Theatre Royal, Ltd.; M., Mr. Lawson Lambert — The Brighton and Hove Operatic Society are giving performances this week of "Les Cloches de Corneville" in aid of the local charities, and are achieving great success. Miss Florence Donovan makes a charming Germaine; Miss Dora Hollis is a vivacious Serpolette; Mr. W. A. Lauder submits an excellent impersonation of Gaspard; Mr. H. T. Bolingbroke is admirably suited as the Marquis de Corneville; Mr. Harry E. Taylor as the Baillie, and Mr. Stanley C. West as Gobo are very amusing; and Mr. W. J. Mitchell and Mr. F. J. Sharpe share the representations of Grenicheux. The very efficient chorus and the orchestra are under the direction of Mr. Chastey Hector. At Thursday's special London matinée, Mr. Cyril Maude and his Playhouse company gave a performance of "The Headmaster."

GRAND THEATRE.—L. & M. D., Mr. Ernest Gates; G. M., Mr. Ben Court.—"No Mother to Guide Her" occupies the boards here. Miss Betty Seymour presents an admirable enactment of the heroine; Mr. Leonard Clarke is distinctly cl

PALACE PIER THEATRE.—M., Mr. Gilbert Laye.—Mr. William Greet is presenting "The Sign of the Cross." Mr. H. St. Barbe displays masterly acting as Marcus Superbus; Miss Madge Monte merits high praise for her embodiment of Mercia; Miss Florence Bond's Stephanus is well played; Miss Constance Grey is realistic as Berenice; Mr. Bernard Elliott makes a dignified Nero; Mr. Charles Yorke (Tigelinus), and Mr. J. Wetherall (Licinius), give able enactments; and Mr. Frank Wood is distinctively effective as Glabrio. The remaining characters are ably sustained, and the play is finely staged and mounted.

WINTER GARDEN. — The Orientals are still here, and are highly entertaining in their afternoon and evening concerts.

COURT THEATRE. — P., Brighton Court Theatre, Ltd.; M. D., Mrs. M. Barrasford; M., Mr. H. R. Lynn. This week (twice nightly): Richards and Leighton; Hilda Mostyn, comedienne and dancer; Los Bustos, acrobats; pictures. Picture matinées, Mondays and Saturdays at 3 p.m. Variety matinée, Thursday, at 3 p.m.

BRISTOL.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—P., Prince's Theatre (Bristol), Ltd.; M. D., Mrs. J. M. Chute and Mr. John Hart; R. M. and T., Mr. J. Ellis Miller; Mus. D. and S. M., Mr. G. R. Chapman.—This week we have Messrs. B. Iden Payne and H. Theodore's company in Stanley Houghton's three-act comedy, "The Younger Generation." Mr. Rupert Harvey presents an exceptionally clever study of James Henry Kennion, and is well supported by Miss Ethel St. Barbe as Mrs. Kennion. Mr. Kenneth Bruce and Mr. W. Bridges-Adams do excellently as the two sons, Arthur and Reggie Kennion; Miss Eda Farmer is pleasing as Grace Kennion; Mr. Joseph A. Keogh finds opportunity for much sly humour and common sense as the somewhat worldly Thomas Kennion, the uncle from Hamburg; Mr. Lionel Fancourt and Mr. Eric Graham make the most of Mr. Leadbitter and Mr. Fowle; Miss Katharine Herbert presents a really powerful and impressive study of the grandmother, Mrs. Hannah Kennion; Mr. William Dexter does all that is necessary as Clifford Rawson; and Miss Dorothy Kingsley makes a smart and interesting parlourmaid. The comedy is preceded by Judge Parry's one-act play, "The Tallyman," which is cleverly performed by Miss Dorothy Kingsley, Mr. Kenneth Bruce, Mr. W. Bridges-Adams, and Miss Katharine Herbert.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Bristol Old Theatre, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Fred W. Carpenter; R. M., Mr. Henry C. Alty; Mus. D., Mr. Edwin Jacobs.—"The Temptress of Paris" is being well played here by Messrs. Paul Beckett and Leonard Laurence's company, the drama being excellently staged. Miss Enid Edoni displays considerable power in her clever performance of Rene Mannering; Mr. Paul Beckett acts admirably throughout as Harry Mannering; Mr. Henry Beckett is consistent and effective as Louis Du Cressy; Mr. Leonard Laurence makes the most of Archie Chamberlain; Miss Dorothy West Symes is pleasing as Iris O'Mara; Miss Ida Irving acts prettily as Master Clinton Mannering; and Mr. Roland Howard and Miss Georgie Loncraine do good work with the comic parts of Tony Onie and Isabella.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; R. M., Mr. N. Preston-Hilary; A. M., Mr. F. S. Green; Mus. D. Mr. Howard W. Galpin.—The attraction here this week is Eustace Gray's Palladium Minstrels. The company consists of ninety men and boys, including the banjo band of about thirty, the members of which play to perfection. Mr. C. Maynard Brown acts as interlocutor in approved style. The soloists are all vocalists of ability, and particular mention may be made of Master Osborne, who has an exceptionally sweet voice; Mr. Joe Morley, a clever banjo soloist; Mr. Charles Clarkson, an amusing stump orator; and Mr. Will Haines with his quaint "Rag-time goblin man." The choruses all go well, and there are some comic interludes. The first performance on Monday evening was attended by the Lord Mayor of Bristol and party, and the High Sheriff and party.

EMPIRE.—R. M., Mr. Henry Lucas; Mus. D., Mr. Louis Gourvitch.—Fred Karno's company is here with two sketches, "Perkins in Paris," with Albert Bruno as Perkins; and "The Bailiff," in which Albert Bruno also appears as Perkins in possession. Both sketches are really very funny, and the company, which is a large and competent one, works very hard. Albert Weston and Nellie Lynch amuse with their American comedy act, which includes burlesque wrestling, etc.; the Colonial Boys do well with their brass band scena; the Sisters Allen are pleasing duettists and dancers; Karl Stern and Marie Jesson excel in their vocal scena "She's a White Lady"; Tom Reno, eccentric patter comedian, is appreciated; the Two Styles, singing comedians, are applauded for their turn; and interesting pictures conclude.

BEDMINSTER HIPPODROME.—L. and G. M., Mr. Joe Collins; R. M., Mr. A. J. Carter; Mus. D., Mr. Maitland de Lacy.—Evelyn Beresford and company are highly successful with their well-staged dramatic episode, "Vashti," the acting of both Miss Beresford and the members of her company being highly commendable. Another clever sketch, in which Miss Beresford and company appear, is "The Half-Caste," which is admirably staged and capitally played, and in which a real live snake is introduced. George Abel and company amuse with their cleverly acted sketch, "Three of a Kind," and other turns include Rowland Hill, a good Dame comedian; Addie Lennard, a pleasing comedienne and dancer; Le Burle, "The Dancing Model," and she also poses gracefully in illuminated scenic pictures; Les Austros do a good acrobatic speciality; Elsie Sylvani is successful as a ballad vocalist; and Peto Almonti is exceptionally clever as a man monkey.

LIVERMORE'S PALACE. — M., Mr. Horace Livermore; Mus. D., Mr. Frederic Fey.—The leading attraction for this week is an interesting film drama, "The Queen of Spades," which is admirably produced. The solo vocalists are Miss Lilian Rose, contralto, and Mr. Carl Osmond, the male-voiced nightingale. Included also in the programme is Hamilton's Excursions and Diorama of "Scenes in Egypt."

BURNLEY.

VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. W. C. Horner. — This week: Messrs. Vedrenne and Eadie present "Milestones." Cast includes: Mr. Wilfrid Caithness, Mr. Wilfrid Eaton, Mr. Fernley Bisshopp, Mr. C. Probyn Dighton, Mr. B. M. Hallward, Mr. Charles Field, M. Herbert Rouen, Mr. George Hewetson, Miss Nellie Griffen, Miss Lynn Fontanne, Miss Mary Lincoln, Miss Bertha Wilkinson, Miss Alice M. Maude, Miss Violet Gibbs. T.M., Mr. E. Taylor-Platt. Next week: "Improper Peter."

EMPIRE.—M. D., Mr. W. C. Horner. — This week (twice nightly): The Elliott Savonas, instrumentalists; Hymar and Metford, in dancing; Probyn and Bates, comedy duo; Jack Audley, comedian; George Benson, mimic; Rosie Rays, vocalist; and pictures.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—P., Palace Theatre and Hippodrome (Burnley), Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. J. Rintoul.—This week (twice nightly): G. Ray presents the Eight Football Skating Girls; Josephine La Barte, singer, at the piano; Vera Nixon, comedienne and dancer; Little Bella and Jules Terry, juvenile artistes; Francis and Alfred, juggler and assistant; Jimmy Danvers and Eva Rosslyn; Rag and Tag, acrobats; Arthur Slater, whistler; Four Vagabonds, comedians; and pictures.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.

THE THEATRE.—L., the Burton Theatre, Ltd.—This week (once nightly): Mr. William Maclaren and Miss Lily C. Bandmann present "Claudian." The company includes: Mr. Charles A. Roberts, Mr. Edmund Grogan, Mr. William Watson, Mr. Victor Hardy, Mr. Robert S. R. Pittard, Mr. Basil Mitchill, Mr. Douglas Earle, Mr. Weston Hubbard, Mr. Cecil Maynard, Messrs. Lovell and Boyce, Mr. James Donatus, Miss Dudley Herbert, Mr. William Maclaren, Mr. Ivor Langton, Mr. A. Nuttall, Mr. Jno. Abbuddue, Miss Millicent Ward, Little Geraldine Meredith, Mr. George Searle, Miss Pamela Hodson, Miss Ida Crofte, Miss Mona Crofte, Miss Rose Moore, Miss Amy Forbes, Miss Merwal Rosebrook, Miss Lily C. Bandmann, T. M., Mr. Arthur McEwan. Next week: "The Glad Eye."

BURY (Lancs).

ROYAL.—P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; Asst. A. M., Mr. J. G. McPherson.—This week: Alexander Marsh and company in Shakespearean and Standard Plays. Monday, "Taming of the Shrew"; preceded by "The Bishop's Candlesticks." The company includes: Messrs. Alexander Marsh, Wilson Gunning, J. William Mollison, Frank J. Fay, W. Edward Stirling, Henry Oscar, Edwin Beverley, Ian Fleming, George Vernon, Edmund Tennant, Leonard Trollope, Miss Agnes Gagan, Dora Mason, May Grimshaw, and Carrie Baillie. "David Garrick," "Corsican Brothers," "Romeo and Juliet," "Oliver Twist," "Midsummer Night's Dream," "As You Like It," and "A Tale of Two Cities" are also in the week's bill.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. Ernest Sims; Mus. D., Mr. John Peel.—This week (twice nightly): Arnold Richardson presents "Ferdie's Ma-in-Law"; Frank E. Ford, dancer; Milly and Gordon Trio, singers and dancers; the Shentons, vocalists and dancers; Reg. Wentworth, comedy artiste; Harry and Mutch, trombonees; Belle Sylvia, contralto; pictures.

CAMBRIDGE.

NEW THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—Mr. B. Iden Payne's company, in plays by Bernard Shaw, Monday, Thursday, and Saturday matinée 2.30 "Man and Superman"; Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, "The Philanderer." The company includes: Messrs. Arnold Reynor, Wilfred Fletcher, Desmond Brannigan, Alfred Payne, Martin Sands, and Esme Percy; Misses Minnie Webb and Carrie Haase.

EMPIRE.—L., Messrs. Hawkins and Frank; M., Mrs. Hawkins; Mus. D., Mr. Davis.—This week (twice nightly): Newman and Wynne, in "The Trainer's Daughter"; Dorothy Sparks, vocalist; Three Royal Temples, vocalists; Will Blanch, comedian; Rene Thorne, vocalist; and pictures. Picture matinée, Saturday.

CANTERBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—D., Mr. William Holland.—This week (once nightly): Harold Montague and his Vagabond Players, including: Agnes Arden, Gwen Lewis, Leslie Burgess, Thomas Jackson, Arthur Thomas, Arthur E. Godfrey, and Harold Montague. Matinée, Saturday, at 3. Next week: "Anna."

CARDIFF.

NEW THEATRE.—Sole P. & M., Mr. Robert Redford; Mus. D., Mr. Ambrose Mabbett.—This week (once nightly, and matinée Saturday, at 2): Mr. Philip Michael Faraday presents "The Pink Lady." Cast includes: Miss Hilda Vining, Mr. Percy Carr, Miss Gladys Beech, Mr. Robert Blythe, Mr. Walter Cross, Mr. Barron A. Alford, Miss Vi Seymour, Miss Mynie Maye, Miss Rhoda Gordon, Miss Belle Rivers, Miss Lal Dickens, Miss Nell Desmond, Miss Mabelle Firth, Mr. John Maxwell, Mr. John Ricketts, Mr. Frank Attree, Mr. Harold Loscombe, Miss Mabel Durrant, Mr. Marshall Sheppard, Miss Joan Keddie, Mr. Hewett Whiting, Mr. George Paulton, Mr. Sylvanus Potts, Mr. Henry J. White, Mr. Fred Wright, jun. T. M., Mr. Cecil C. Imeson.

THEATRE ROYAL.—R. M., Mr. Arthur Beaufort.—This week (twice nightly): "For Love and the King." The company includes: Richard Ferris, Norman S. Chantry, St. John Stuart, Spencer Vine, Harold Heath, Arthur Beaufort, Geoffrey Chate, Algy Spalding, Mr. V. Minton, Mr. Mat Stone, Mr. D. Adams, Mabel Scudamore, Nana Flensberg, Alice Howe, Lillian Fenn.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Herbert J. Taylor.—This week (twice nightly): Geo. Formby; Doroswami, the Indian Kubelik; Chas. Lewis, ventriloquist; Fred Maitland and company, in "No 1, Gerrard"; Jenny and Joe, in singing and dancing; Park's Eton Boys, in vocal and dancing act; Ethel Loftus, comedy girl; Wild, Willie and West, acrobats; Aerial Smiths, trapeze artistes; and pictures.

CARLISLE.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE. — M. D., Mr. Sidney Bacon; R. M., Mr. Harry Armstrong. — This week: Charles Stretton presents "The Gay Lord Quex." Cast includes: Mr. C. Leveson Lane, Mr. Charles Harley, Mr. G. C. Roche, Mr. J. Poole-Kirkwood, Miss Ponsonby Hartshorn, Miss Rita Ward, Miss Violet Harley, Miss Winifred Bateman, Mr. Rudolph Simms, Mr. Fred Henshaw, Miss Eva Turnour, Miss Daisy Baldry, Miss Jennie Atherton, Mlle. Juliette Pelleter, Miss Ethel Griffies.

PALACE THEATRE. — P., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. J. D. Askew.—This week (twice nightly): Macdonald and Young's company, in "The Lodgers"; A. W. Scott, a white man who works like a nigger; Frank Maura, the Mexican wonder; Gordon and Lassie; Anna Hana, American entertainer; Mertz and Whittle, comedians; Norbreck and Fraser, artistic singers; Phil Kauffman, coloured coon; Chris. Van Bern, comedian; pictures. Next week: Wee Georgie Wood.

CASTLEFORD.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Messrs. Chas. Gadsby and Sons; B. M., Mr. Harry Masterman, J.P.—This week: E. Hill-Mitchelson's company in "The Blackguard of the Queen's Regiment." Cast includes: Mr. Stanley W. Healey, Mr. Sidney A. Monckton, Mr. Saxon Looker, Mr. Walter Parks, Mr. C. H. Henderson, Mr. S. Parkinson, Mr. J. B. Lewes, Mr. Cyril Harrison, Mr. Willie Hicks, Mr. Fred Connell, Miss Laurie Adair, Miss Violet Carlyle, Miss Mysie Monte, Miss Ella Sennett.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—P., Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Messrs. Beanland and Emerson.—This week (once nightly): The Two Mermaids; Happy Attwood, comedian; pictures. Picture matinées, Monday and Saturday, at 3.

CHATHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Asst. M., Mr. Lionel Barnard; Mus. D., Mr. Albert E. Vicary.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Philip Michael Faraday presents "The Chocolate Soldier." The company includes: Miss Pearl Ladd, Miss Courtis Cheal, Miss Nellie Dale, Mr. Harry Arnold, Mr. Lawrence Howard, Mr. Robert Seymour, Mr. Harry Chiles, Mr. Harry Milner, Miss Mabel Crouch, Miss Suzette Dole, Mr. Patrick Evans, Miss Elma Middleton, Miss Ruby Lesley, Mr. James Davis, and Mr. Leo Sheffield. T. M., Mr. T. N. Walter. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30.

EMPIRE. — Joint M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll and Alderman H. E. Davis, J.P., C.C.; R. M., Mr. Lionel Melville.—This week (twice nightly): Miss Zona Vevey, accompanied by Max Erard; the Australian Dancing McLeans, in whirlwind dances; Daley Cooper and Mabel Lait, presenting "A Man of Spirit"; Anartos, musical comedians; Hartley Wonders, the kangaroo and the electric girl; Ethel Eden, comedienne; Maggie Walsh, singing mill girl; and pictures.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—This week: Barton and Ashley, in "Money Talks"; John Earl, the hatedian; August, September and May, in "I'm Done"; Jack Sheridan, comedian; Vera Caine, athletic girl; Maisie Renee, comedienne and dancer; Leonard Mortimer's sketch company; and pictures.

CHELTENHAM.

THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—G. M., Mr. G. Oswald Redford.—This week: Messrs. Leslie Moreton and Guyton Heath's company in "Miss Book of Holland." The cast includes: Mr. Fred J. Little, Mr. George F. Ide, Mr. Murray Ashford, Mr. James Davis, Mr. Olly Comber, Mr. A. W. Bartlett, Mr. Arthur Mann, Mr. E. Roma, Mr. William Nixon, Mr. John Gerant, Miss Peggy Le Hay, Miss Clarice Gordon, Miss Kathleen Goslett, Miss Dorothy Maude, Miss Helene Moore, Miss Gladys Ashton. Mus. D., Mr. Tom Lewis. Next week (Monday excepted): "The Gondoliers," by local amateurs.

WINTER GARDEN PICTURE HOUSE.—M., Mr. Wilmot Carlton. — This week: Lowe and Loman, novelty comedians; Nellie Lunelle, comedienne and dancer; and pictures.

POOLE'S PICTURE PALACE. — R. M., Mr. Shakspere Shenton.—This week: Ted Karno and company in "The Dinner Hour"; Alice Gill, contralto and Tyrolean vocalist; and pictures.

CHESTERFIELD.

CORPORATION THEATRE.—This week (twice nightly): The Four Casinos, dancers; Geofrey and Geofrey, comedy artistes; Fred Miller; the Blome Trio, musical troupe; and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—P., Hippodrome (Chesterfield), Ltd.; G. M., Mr. F. R. Sargisson. — This week (twice nightly): Juggling Geraldos; Talbot and Clare, in "An Eastern Absurdity"; Ethel Donna, comedienne; Renand Lockwood and Co., in "Backing the Gee-gees"; Master Sydney, comedian; Cliff Ryland; Arthur Croxon, in burlesques; Three Orros, gymnasts; and pictures.

CONSETT.

NEW TOWN HALL.—This week (twice nightly): Marie Scott's Juveniles; Leon C. Clifford, illusionist; and pictures.

ROYAL PICTURE HOUSE.—L., Mr. Smart Todd.—This week (twice nightly): Kimberley and Melbourne, comedy couple; Banjara, basso vocalist; Evie Daunton, comedienne; and pictures.

COVENTRY.

OPERA HOUSE.—This week: Mr. Geo. N. Ballanger's company, including Young Buffalo, in "King of the Wild West."

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. S. T. Newsome; R. M., Mr. G. E. Wright.—This week: The local amateurs are playing "The Gondoliers."

CREWE.

NEW THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett; R. M., Mr. L. F. Testot.—This week (once nightly and matinée Saturday, 2.30): Mr. Louis Meyer presents "The Glad Eye." The company includes: Mr. S. Wilkinson, Mr. Frederick Meads, Mr. F. Clive Ross, Mr. Tom Tindall, Mr. Carl W. Lindsay, Mr. Reginald Maurice, Mr. Frank W. Ward, Mr. Maurice Winter, Mr. Ernest Gray, Miss Esther Whitehouse, Miss Rhoda Beresford, Miss Laurie Flockton, and Miss Ethel Percival. Next week: "Brewster's Millions."

CO-OPERATIVE HALL.—L., Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes; R.M., Mr. George Burton.—This week (once nightly): Leolin, juggler; Patty Burton, vocalist; J. H. Carney, entertainer; and pictures.

CROYDON.

REPERTORY THEATRE.—D., Messrs. Keble Howard and Dick Adams; M. & T., Mr. Ernest Archer. This week: "Chains." Cast includes: Pearl Keats, Eille Norwood, John Napper, Madge McIntosh, James Gelderd, Nora Kessler, Richard Edridge, A. E. Filmer, Alison Gillies, Stanley Lathbury, William Stack. Next week: "The Tyranny of Tears."

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—M. D., Mr. Charles Gulliver; M., Mr. Eustace Jay; A. M., Mr. R. James; Mus. D., Mr. Leslie Russell.—This week (twice nightly): Billy Merson, Jack Lorimer, Esta Stella, Gwennie Llewellyn, Sylvia Phillips, Arthur Aiston, Selby and Myers, Carl Muller, the Milandro Quartette, pictures, Moller's Lilliputians, and Edward Marris' company in "Her Madcap Majesty." The company includes J. F. Henry, Frederick James, J. W. Howell, Alec Alves, Dorothy Edwardes, and Ethel Ward.

DARLINGTON.

ROYAL — L. & M., Mr. James Bell. — This week (twice nightly): "King and the Unknown Woman." Cast includes: Mr. John A. Riley, Mr. Naylor Grimson, Mr. Alex Alexandra, Mr. Sidney Rennet, Mr. Dobson Clyde, Mr. Ted Mooney, Mr. Geo. Osmond Tearle, Mr. Roxborough Kelso, Miss Gladys Brittain, Miss Grace Stafford, Miss Stella Carmichael, Miss Nellie Sinclair, Miss Lily Beverley.

HIPPODROME.—L. and M., Signor Pepi; R. M., Mr. Sydney B. Stringer.—This week (twice nightly): Barnold's Dogs, in "A Hot Time in Dogville"; Doris Hunter, the mighty atom; Conway George, impressionist; Rowlands and Ford, comedians; Dancing Pacevs, vocal duo; Ivy Olvar, contralto; Mazuz and Mazette, comedy act.

DARWEN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Darwen Theatre Royal Co.; G. M., Mr. Thos. Baker; Mus. D., Mr. E. T. De Banzie.—This week (twice nightly): Dacre and Lynton and their grand organ; Smit and Smit, comedy acrobats; and pictures.

ALBERT HALL.—P., Messrs. Bradley and Hindle.—This week (twice nightly): Four Cameos, knockabouts; Brothers Ward, comedy gymnasts; and pictures.

DERBY.

GRAND.—P. & M., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; A. M., Mr. Chas. Denley; Asst. M., Mr. J. B. Torr. —This week: Mr. N. Thorpe-Mayne's company in "Improper Peter." The cast includes: Messrs. Thorpe Mayne, Cyril Austin-Lee, Chas. Kent-Francis, Fred Wallis, Wm. Jules Kenn, Thomas Barry, Eric Ellesmere, Victor George, Misses Beryl Hamilton, Winifred Gardner, Nellie Beryl, Violet Masters, Bessie Jewell, and Margaret Denniston. Preceded by "The Raffleing of Sherlock Holmes."

PALACE.—L. & M., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; A. M., Mr. T. W. Moyes; Asst. M., Mr. A. Knight. —This week: Burt Burnell's Crazy Go'fers; Jack Shores, comedian; Sisters Fantozzi; and the Dancing Duggans, vocalists and dancers; and pictures.

VICTORIA ELECTRIC THEATRE. — This week: Edith Eatherley, humorist, at the piano; Wyllie, musician; and pictures.

DEVONPORT.

HIPPODROME.—M., Mr. G. Prance; Assist. M., Mr. Wm. Baldwin.—This week: Oswald Williams, illusionist, supported by Winifred Labarte and company; Norman and Leonard Trio; Molly Wells, accompanied by Frank Mayban; Arthur Woodville, light comedian; Woodhouse and Wells, comedians; Dorothy Leigh, in comedy songs; Chappell and James in "The Fiddler's Romance"; and pictures.

DEWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., the Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—This week (once nightly): Geo. Dance's company in "The Whip." T. M., Mr. Arthur E. Holland. The company includes: Mr. Bert Golday, Mr. Jack Lennol, Mr. Frank Powell, Mr. Ernest James, Mr. George P. Polson, Mr. Frank Henry, Mr. H. Campbell, Mr. Dennis Renton, Mr. Lawrence J. Lawrence, Mr. Arthur Nicholas, Miss Naomi Neilson, Miss Violet Lindsay, Miss Julie Kennard, Miss Violet Roberts, Miss M. Dickinson, Miss Louie Brett, Miss Edna Earle, Mr. Leslie Jarvis, Miss Agnes Hewett, Miss Mabel Milne, Mr. Robert Shenford, Mr. J. Austin, Mr. Robert H. Nash, Mr. Fred Elkington, Mr. Henry Walker. Next week: "A Girl's Good Luck."

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; G. M., Mr. Claude Shayler; Asst. M., Mr. E. J. Jackett; Mus. D., Mr. E. G. Summerfield.—This week: Frederick Sylvester and company, hand-balancers; Young and Evans, the rag-time Yidds; Arthur Lewis, American buck dancer; Miss Joan Deering, vocalist and violinist; Margaret Doris and her football canines; Gene Crowe, minstrel; Thora, ventriloquist; Five Jovers, gymnasts and acrobats; and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; G. M., Mr. Claude Shayler; Asst. M., Mr. H. Shepherd.—This week: John Lorrimer, tenor; and pictures.

INDUSTRIAL HALL.—L. Andrews' Pictures, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. J. Bernard O'Keefe.—This week: Pictures.

DONCASTER.

GRAND THEATRE.—L., The Palace Theatre (Doncaster), Ltd.; M., Mr. J. W. North; A. M., Mr. C. H. Bell; Mus. D., Mr. Charlton T. Waddington.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company in "The Still Alarm." The company includes: Messrs. Vernon Fortesque, Geo. Gaisford, Edward Hobart, Richard Hutton, Vincent Harvey, Lewis Gordon, Bernard Ince, Jack Topping, Henry Smith, Jack Lewis, William Edwards, Eddie Tudor, Harry Johnson, Tom Varney, George Francis, Misses Mabel Veriton, Dorothy Hildebrande, and Miss Margaret Frame. Next week: Miss Lois Du Cane's company in "For His King and the Girl He Loved."

PALACE.—P., The Palace Theatre (Doncaster), Ltd.; M., Mr. J. W. North; A. M., Mr. C. H. Bell; Mus. D., Mr. Felix Burns.—This week (twice nightly): Gaston Chevalier and Mlle. Etoil Le Noir, in "An Episode on a Western Ranch"; Cora Corina, in polyglot scena; Dean and Dale, comedians; Mignon and Frasettis, in dancing and musical act; Will Tyler, cyclist; St. Hellier and Dorothy, entertainers, in "Stage Struck"; the Four Maxims, jugglers; and pictures.

DOVER.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. S. W. Winter; M., Mr. E. W. Holford; Mus. C., Mr. Chas. C. Hill.—This week (twice nightly): Queenie Leighton, in new successes; Vocioni, operatic trio, including Helen Moray, Scottish prima donna; Charles Armand, French basso profundo; and Mahamed Labas, Arabian tumbler and juggler, assisted by El Chic; Wyndham and Keighley, mirth-makers; Daisy Verne, comedienne; Charles Dent, comedian; Cline and Clark, dancers.

KING'S HALL.—This week (twice nightly): Sam Richard's company, in "Venetia"; Lillie Denville, comedienne; Wallace Lupino, comedian.

DUBLIN.

GAIETY THEATRE.—M., Mr. Chas. Hyland.—"Slumberland," the charming musical fairy play written and composed by Mr. Hubert Rooney, is drawing crowded houses here this week. The parts are nearly all played by young children, whose training reflects the highest credit on Mr. and Mrs. Leggett Byrne, who are responsible for the production. The whole piece goes with a swing from start to finish, and encores are frequent. The mounting is on a lavish scale. On Wednesday night the Lord-Lieutenant and Countess Aberdeen patronised the theatre and personally congratulated Mr. and Mrs. Leggett Byrne on their marvellous training of the children.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M., Mr. Chas. Terry; Mus. D., Mr. Knight Pearce.—Great interest was centred here in the first appearance of "Everywoman," and Monday night saw a house packed from floor to ceiling. Mr. Edward Compton (who is one of Dublin's greatest favourites) in the part of Nobody displays great elocutionary power; his acting all through is both dignified and convincing. Miss May Congdon in the name-part shows herself to be an actress of high histrionic ability. Of the others, Fred Powell as Wealth, Frank R. Robertson as Lord Witless, and Richard Cowell as Age deserve special mention; of the ladies, Misses Haidee Barry, Helen Oliver, and Ruby Vernon are all delightful in their respective rôles of Youth, Modesty, and Conscience. The mounting of the piece is excellent, both the Supper scene and Piccadilly-circus being triumphs in stage craft.

QUEEN'S ROYAL THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. H. J. Baynton.—"The Mormon's Victim," an American play, is playing to big houses here. The company under the able direction of Mr. Frank Aldine is a thoroughly capable one. Mr. Wilfred Blair makes a capital hero, and as Jack Lindsay, the miner, carries his audience with him throughout; Miss Mario Henshaw acts well as Bessie Mack. The mounting of the piece is excellent, and the many thrilling incidents keep the audience intensely interested.

TIVOLI THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—M., Mr. Chas. M. Jones.—Hayman and Franklin present their Jewish mix-up, "Cohen's Mistake," in which their clever character studies create considerable amusement; Fields and Fields, a bright and breezy American duo, are prime favourites; the Dollars are original and entertaining; T. C. Eric is a ventriloquist of much ability; Lily King hits the popular taste with some tuneful numbers; Jas. Houston and company present a delightful Scotch sketch; the Two Boyds are high-class musicians; and Teddy Worth is a droll comedian.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—M. and S., Mr. George Marsh.—Pertab Singh presents some weird mysteries delightfully mounted and cleverly conceived; Lizst, basso, has a fine reception; the Floradoras present a dainty musical sketch, which proves highly entertaining; Dan Conroy succeeds in no small way in his mission of mirth; Claire and Clarence (humorous duo), Con Therry (vocalist and dancer), Maizie Hibbs (pedestal dancer), and Ruby Aston (with some catchy songs) make up the remainder of the programme.

ABBEY THEATRE. M., Mr. Henderson.—A revival of Mr. Boyle's inimitable comedy, "The Mineral Workers," is drawing large houses here. The play describes the struggle with local prejudice by a returned Irish-American who has taken to mining in Ireland. Mr. Sean Connolly makes a great hit as Dan Fogarty, and all the other parts are in capable hands.

WORLD'S FAIR VARIETIES.—M., Mr. R. J. Goldston; Mus. D., Mr. Sanderson Smith.—This week (twice nightly): Eileen Hall, soprano; Geo Side, comedian; La Belle Hedita, dancer; and pictures.

RODEGA. — Commercial-buildings, Dame-street: Wines, Spirits, Cigars, &c.; Restaurant, Luncheons, Sandwich Bar; Theatrical papers.

DUNDEE.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—P., Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham; G. M., Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Licensee and A. M., Mr. Louis Karpe; Mus. D., Mr. H. Everitt Loseby.—A large house on Monday evening welcomed with many signs of approval the first presentation here of that delightful comedy, "Milestones," of which a wonderfully fine performance was given by Messrs. Vedrenne and Eadie's company. Mr. Campbell Gullan evolved a strikingly natural character study out of the part of John Rhead and furnished a piece of acting that could hardly be excelled; the interesting and sympathetic character of Gertrude Rhead was portrayed to the life by Miss Mona Harrison, who must be warmly congratulated on her admirable assumption; Miss Gladys Hamilton made a charming Rose Sibley, and as Mrs John Rhead appropriately emphasised the docile gentleness of the part; Miss Edyth Goodall was a deliciously winsome Emily Rhead, afterwards Lady Monkhurst, her love scenes with Arthur Preece being exquisitely carried through; Miss Murielle Langley was most amusing as the ex-typist who married Sam Sibley; Muriel Pym was artistically and brightly impersonated by Miss Netta Westcott, and Miss Keith Lytton was capital as Mrs. Rhead in the first act. Mr. Goodwin Nock's Samuel Sibley was a fine, sound bit of acting; Mr. Guy Newall infused much humour into the part of Ned Pym; Mr. Dallas Cairns contributed an earnest and forcible rendering of Arthur Preece; Mr. Charles Lascelles cleverly characterised the Lord Monkhurst of the third act; and others in an excellent cast included Mr. Clarence Bigge, Mr. Norman King, and Mr. Kenneth Webb. Next week: "A Country Girl."

GAIETY THEATRE.—L., Gaiety Theatre (Dundee), Ltd; Licensee & M. D., Mr. Henry C. Cavanah, C.A.; Mus. D., Mr. J. Murphy.—Mr Wilson Howard's No. 1 company is appearing here this week in the stirring drama, "Under the Czar." As Nicholas Yeroslaff, colonel of the Moscow Police, Mr. Wilson Howard gives a finished and effective performance; Miss Carlotta Anson is responsible for a very fine representation of the Russian girl, Sonia Gregorovitch; Zakbar Kovesky is realistically impersonated by Mr. Norton Shields; Mr. Carl Vallender does well as Alexis Petrof; a good character sketch of Paul Ignat is presented by Mr. Frank Hertle; Michael Granovski and Anton Gregorovitch are cleverly characterised by Mr. E. Ashworth and Mr. J. H. Winter; Mr. Chris Walton makes a satisfactory Count Nesseldorf; Mr. Harry Pitt does well as Corporal Nikon; and Mr. A. E. Rose appears to advantage as Major Suwaroff. Mr. Gerald Smythe is a fine, manly Captain Johnson; the Czar is neatly sketched by Mr. R. Merring; Miss Madge Clare affords a good study of the gipsy, Sara Bhuro; and Miss Florence M. Daly's rendition of Siomka is one of decided merit. The piece is effectively mounted, the Execution scene being particularly realistic. Next week: Herbert Lloyd's Minstrel Troupe.

KING'S THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—L., Dundee Theatres, Ltd; Licensee and M., Mr. S. McIntosh; Mus. D., Mr. E. B. Rogers.—The bill for the current week is a strong one, headliners being the world-famous Cowboy Jupiters, whose performance is certainly most startling; Meg and Jock provide an amusing interlude, and are ably assisted by Elsie Raven, who dances in charming manner; Lottie Lennox secures abundant applause; Donaldson Brothers present their burlesque zoological scream, "Sports in a Jungle," which comprises some smart feats and abundance of comedy; Randolph Sutton, a breezy light comedian, sings in an easy and confident style; Irene Armitage's cultured singing gives much pleasure; quite an entertainment in itself is Harry Burns' latest comedy conception, "McDougall at Bute," written and arranged by Henry Curwen, with special music by Alan D'Albert. Tom Bond's antics and absurdities in the title-rôle make for continual merriment; and he is ably assisted by a strong cast, including Blanche Marjon, Lillian Errol, Victor Tyler, Reuben Kitchen, Bobbie Walker, and Edwin Garth, while the dancing of the Six Dollars further lends animation to the scene. Next week: "Submarine F7."

PALACE THEATRE.—L., B.B. Pictures, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. J. Bennell; District and A. M., Mr. Tom Lunn.—Martinette and Wallace, in a novel musical entertainment, meet with considerable success; a favourable impression is created by David and Marriott, operatic duettists, whose contributions are received with much acceptance; and pictures complete.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—L., B.B. Pictures, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. J. Bennell; District M., Mr. Tom Lunn; A. M., Mr. C. J. McArthy.—Joe Sadler and Tiny Elsie present an amusing protean entertainment, which wins much approval; Charles D'Elroy and his highly trained dog indulge in some smart juggling and conjuring tricks; and pictures complete.

PAVILION PICTURE AND VARIETY PALACE.—P., Messrs. R. and J. Pennycook; M., Mr. J. Pennycook; Mus. D., Mr. James Walton.—Topping the bill here is Aulga, "king of mimicry," who gives a decidedly clever and entertaining turn; Annie Duncan provides a fine dancing act; Raie Walters brings with her many charming ditties, which she renders in dainty and vivacious style; "The Wanderer," an original song-scena, is cleverly presented by Jim Anson, the cowboy actor-vocalist; and some excellent films are screened.

TIVOLI THEATRE.—P. & M., Messrs. Edward and McIntosh; Mus. D., Mr. Wm. Blyth.—The variety portion of the programme here is supplied by Dan Grieve, a real funny comedian, who can also sing; pictures complete.

HIPPODROME.—P. & M., Mr. Arthur Binnall; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Ruse.—Argo and Oogo give an expert exhibition of American mat dancing; pictures complete.

WEST END CINEMA.—S. & T., Mr. Alex. Mitchell.—The vaudeville section of the programme is contributed by Charles Crayford, the Kentish mystic, who provides a bright show; pictures complete.

EASTBOURNE.

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admirable dancing is heartily applauded; Ena Vinè and Mark Brewer submit a bright and skilful musical act; the Lacori Family perform with dash and dexterity on the trapeze; Billy Danes in his quizzical sketches is very felicitous; and Master Alexander Stewart, a boy violinist, plays two selections with excellent technique and expression.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Charles A. Bayne; Mus. D., Mr. James Howarth.—Arthur Prince's ventriloquial scena, with his "Sailor Boy, Jim," is one of the most entertaining items of its kind which this clever artist has yet introduced, and it forms the outstanding turn in this week's bill; the Brooklyn Quartet of harmonising comedians contribute an enjoyable mélange of grave and gay numbers in excellent style; some novelties are included in the lively acrobatic sketch of Woody, Wells and Co.; Friend and Downing are exceedingly funny as a Hebrew comedy couple; and the McGuinness Bros., "The West Point Cadets," exploit American songs and dances in expert fashion. Among the single-handed turns David Paget, the boy violinist, creates something like a furore; Winifred Ward makes a very pleasing impression as a male impersonator; Phil Parsons is a characteristically brilliant light comedian; and a juvenile performer appears in the person of Jack Marks.

EXETER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., The Exeter Theatre Co., Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—This week (once nightly): The Exeter Amateur Operatic Society present "The Mikado." Matinée, Friday, at 2.30. Next week: "The Dust of Egypt."

FALKIRK.

GRAND THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. R. C. Buchanan; R. M., Mr. Horace W. Ebbut.—This week: Mooney and Holbein, the advanced vaudevillians; Alex Shaw, mimic; Fred Millburn, ventriloquist; Dick and Dorothy Trio, vocalists and dancers; Rita Hutcheson, comedienne and dancer; Jarvis and Martin, comedy jugglers; and pictures.

ELECTRIC THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. J. E. Atkinson.—This week: Kartelli, slack wire artiste; Nellie Nora, instrumentalist; Pat Clark, dancing juggler; the Mirthful Melody Makers; and pictures.

FERNDALE.

WORKMEN'S HALL.—G. M., Mr. David Williams.—This week: Celtic and West Trio in eccentric pastimes; Norman and Allan, pattering postmen; Lucretia and Josephine, duettists and dancers; and pictures.

FOLKESTONE.

PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE. — M., Mr. H. B. Hampton.—This week (once nightly): The Folkestone Dramatic Club, in "The Prisoner of Zenda." The company includes: Mr. W. S. Tayler, Mr. F. Seager, Mr. T. Harrison, Mr. P. Norman, Mr. J. H. Laidman, Mr. W. Medhurst, Mr. F. Ward, Mr. J. Boulton, Mr. H. R. Stone, Mr. F. Lloyd, Mr. A. Vincent, Mr. H. Godfrey, Mr. J. Wood, Mr. F. Bourke, Miss V. Peart, Miss J. Jones, and Miss M. Hughes. Mus. D., Mr. S. George Cooper. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.30. Next week: "Dad."

GATESHEAD.

KING'S.—G. M., Mr. R. F. Douthwaite; A. M., Mr. M. S. Hammond.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. and Mrs. John B. Shinton present "When London Sleeps." The company includes: Mr. John B. Shinton, Mr. Fred H. Constable, Mr. Ernest Regent, Mr. Edward Lowrie, Mr. Bert Atherton, Mr. Charles M. Holmes, Mr. Frank Kelland, Miss Minnie Watersford, Miss Edith Watkins, Miss Isabel Hunt, and Miss Ada M. Ryder.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—P., Newcastle and Gateshead Theatres, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. E. C. Howitt.—This week (twice nightly): Alexander's Coliseum Players present "When It Was Dark." The company includes: Mr. Louis Lingard, Mr. Bert Oates, Mr. Roy Selfridge, Mr. Victor Tandy, Mr. Leslie Cudd, Mr. Royce Carleton, Mr. Henri Stewart, Mr. George Wade, Mr. Gerald Dewhurst, Mr. Fred Smithers, Miss Alice Smith, Miss Louie Lonora, Miss Lilian Maitland, Miss Ada Champion. T. M., Mr. Roy Selfridge. Next week: "Why Did She Run Away?"

GILLINGHAM.

GRAND.—P., The Grand Picture and Variety Co.; L. & M., Mr. W. T. Beattie.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Fred Eustace and company in comedy drama, "Amber Light"; Miss Mary C. Glyn and company, in sketch, "The Family Name"; Will Crackles, comedian; Gracie Gerald, comedienne and dancer; and pictures.

GEM.—P., Messrs. S. and C. Goodman.—This week (twice nightly): Eva George, comedienne; Eric O'Mara, vocalist; T. P. Carroll, comedian and dancer; and pictures.

GLASGOW.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Harry F. Ashton.—The clever detective comedy, "Ready Money," is this week visiting the city for the first time, and Mr. Allan Aynesworth's company do every justice to it in the way of acting, dressing, and staging. The important part of Ives was taken by Mr. Frederick Victor with complete success, and the hard up young friend, Baird, had a capital representative in Mr. Olaf Hytten; the three smart men about town, Stewart (Mr. Leonard Seymour), Rosenthal (Mr. Jameson Thomas), and Welch (Mr. Guy Buckley), were most adequately presented; James E. Morgan by Mr. Ernest Cassel, and the Hon. J. H. Tyler by Mr. Walter Goodwin were excellent business types; Mr. Arthur Elwyn's Detective West was a good bit of work, the assistants being ably taken by Messrs. Oliver Crombie and Lewis Clarke; Miss Agnes Verity gave character to the rôle of Mrs. Tyler, and the three engaged young ladies were charmingly played by Misses Bertha Wilson, D. St. Clair Smith, and Ivy Clemow. The comedy is preceded by "Salomy Jane's Kiss," founded on Bret Harte's story of the same name.

KING'S THEATRE.—P., Messrs. Howard and Wyndham; M. D., Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and G. T. Minshull; B. M., Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—This week (from Tuesday, once nightly, and Saturday matinée, 2.30).—The Lyric Club in "Paul Jones." Cast includes: Mr. Gregor M'Gregor, Mr. J. Craig Boyle, Mr. Edwin Templeton, Mr. Archie M'Lay, Mr. Alex. Shaw, Mr. C. E. Pearson, Mr. Stanley G. Smith, Mr. J. Manning Fellows, Miss Gertrude Simpson, Miss M. Campbell, Miss Jeannie Peters, Miss Chrissie M'Pherson, Miss Minnie B. Paton, Miss Jennie B. Auckland, Miss May Macara, Mr. Roy MacLean Burnie, Mr. Jack Neilson, Mr. Francis K. Mitchell, Mr. W. M. Irvine, Mr. J. Whittet, jun., Mr. H Brown, Mr. Douglas N. Anderson, Mr. R. G. Gray Mr. Donald R. MacLaren, Miss M. Pearson, Miss R. Forsyth, Mr. Jack James, Mr. J. Grainger, Miss Bessie Auncie. Next week: "Milestones."

ROYALTY.—L., Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. John Carpenter.—This week: The Importance of Being Earnest" and Eden Phillpotts' tragic little play, "The Carrier Pigeon," constitute most of the programme, with the same cast as last week. On Tuesday the third performance (private) of Mr. Geo. Bernard Shaw's censored play, "Mrs. Warren's Profession," took place before a crowded house. On Friday another change was made, Björnson's play, "A Gauntlet," being revived for one night only.

GRAND, LTD.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; R. M., Mr. H. J. Crane.—Mr. Percy Williams' stock season continues to run successfully here, good houses turning out to see "A London Actress." Miss Beatrice Shirley as Hilda Langley, an adventuress, is very clever; good acting of a quieter type is supplied by Miss Maud Warburton as the actress, Phyllis Crawford. Amongst the males Mr. Frank Liston carries first place for his handsome Ned Kingston, while as Clive Crawford Mr. Gerald Kennedy is a good second. A word of praise is due to Mr. J. K. Woods for his Captain Mannering and to Miss Blanche Huber and Mr. Larry Clements for the parts of Biddy Maloney and Moses Mendoza. The humour is in the capable hands of Miss Sally Hatton (Rosie Blythe) and Mr. Harry M. Vernon (Pat Maloney).

PRINCESS'S.—P., Mr. Rich Waldon; A. M., Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—The attraction this week at the Princess's is "Jeannie Deans," presented by Mr. A. W. B. Kingston's company, Mr. Kingston appearing as David Deans. Mr. Ashley Carrington is seen to advantage as the Duke of Argyle, and Mr. Addison Thomas plays the part of Geordie Robertson in a strong and vigorous manner. Mr. Harry Egan is a decided success as the Laird o' Dumbiedykes; Mr. Tom Mortimer also comes well to the front as Jamie Ratcliffe, as does Mr. Jack C. Gray as Sharpitlaw; Miss Maud McNally plays Madge Wildfire admirably, and Miss Helen Colling is seen to advantage as Marjory Murdochson; Miss Emily Peel acts Effie Deans in an effective and winning manner, and Miss Madge F. Young, who gives an unequalled reproduction of the title part, has a deservedly good reception. Other members of the company are Mr. R. Garron as the Lord Justiciary, Mr. Ed. Lanton, Counsel for the Crown, and Mr. A. B. W. Kingston as Counsel for the defence; Mr. James Remur, foreman of the jury, Mr. John M'Lachlan, as Black Frank; also Miss M. Lowe Dare as Queen Caroline, and Miss Maggie McIntyre as Lady Suffolk. On Friday the American drama, "A Convict's Wife," was played.

METROPOLE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Arthur Jefferson; A. M., Mr. Amand Mascard.—At the Metropole this week a thrilling and exciting drama, "The Pride of the Prairie," is being played with success. As Dick, the dandy, a young English cowboy, Mr. Graham Winsford is excellent, and Miss Ethel Bickham is charming as Clattering Kate, the pride of the prairie. Mr. Percy Morton Wright is successful in the part of Carlos Durango, as are also Miss Rita Royne as Maggie, Mr. George Mitchell as Great Storm, Mr. C. Young Fixott as Pat Donovan, Mr. Wm. Hayes as Jacob Martin, and Mr. J. J. Stadden as the Dough Nut. The remaining artistes on the programme fill their parts with ability, and all help to make the play the success that it is.

PAVILION, LTD. M., Mr. Evan Good; Mus. D., Mr. R. F. Steele.—Rudinoff is paying a return visit here, and his smoke pictures, shadowgraphs, cartoons, and whistling items are all proving very much to the taste of the audience. George Tawde and Eva McRoberts are accorded a hearty welcome in their native city, and in the Scotch sketch "Elders' Hours," by Robert J. Maclennan, they are afforded an excellent opportunity of displaying their ability. The sketch is full of clever touches of humour, the acting of the two principals is bright and original, and the denouement is well worked up to. Kenna Bros. as "The Airmen" give a smart turn, novel in conception, and ingeniously carried out. Agnes St. Clair and Craighall Sherry take well in a sketch, "The Latch Key." Dix and Dox as eccentric novelty musicians introduce a lot of clever business, and were well received. Edna Latonne again comes provided with a number of new and catchy chorus songs. Angus Strong is a baritone with a powerful voice; Eve Dickson gives songs and stories, old and new, at the piano; and Yettmah, a Japanese magician, contributes a neatly worked turn.

PALACE.—P. & M., Mr. Rich Waldon; G. M., Mr. Harry M'Kelvie; Mus. D., Mr. A. Fellowes.—The company is an all-round good one. Florrie Gallimore, comedienne, delighted the audience with her latest successes. Another interesting item is the dramatic sketch presented by Sinclair Neill and company, "The Bank Thief," in which Miss Alice Miller does a capable bit of acting. Other notable artistes completing a good programme include Venie Clements, versatile comedienne; Tom E. Hood, eccentric comedian; Belrose and Devlin, vocalists and duettists; Phil Lynn, comedian and dancer; the Three de Linds, specialists in ragtime singing and dancing; Zaleski, expert contortionist and acrobat; Lynn and Leslie, speciality artistes; and Daisy Graham and company and troupe of performing birds, monkeys, &c.

COLISEUM.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Gordon Jefferson; Mus. D., Mr. J. H. Clucas.—Harry Houdini tops the bill here, and in his smart Indian needle trick he astonishes the audience, but the sensation of the evening is his new and daring Water Torture Cell act, which is the most astounding feat he has yet given, and aroused the audience to a great pitch of enthusiasm. Drawee, Hambo, and Frisco take well in their clever and amusing juggling scena "Pastimes in a Jungle," in which many smart items are introduced. George Newburn's imitations of popular variety artistes are most life-like, and the audience were almost insatiable in their demands for more. The Columbia Trio blend humour and harmony well together in their turn, and proved as popular as ever. The Ten Dixie Girls, in their coon songs and dances, contribute a pretty turn, and were heartily encored. Percival, the gay burlesquer, had his turn somewhat abbreviated owing to the long programme, but easily made good in the time allotted him. Harold Baker, comedian, with some clever parodies, took well. Callen and Emery give a smart American act, which contains a lot of new and clever business.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. G. Rhodes Barry; A. M., Mr. R. D. Harvey; Mus. D., Mr. Wm. B. Moore.—Han Ting Chien, the great Chinese wizard, is one of the most dexterous artistes that has ever appeared in this city; his performance is well augmented by his troupe of jugglers and acrobats in "Pekin Mysteries." Maggie Benson, the original servant girl, sings "Sally in our alley" most delightfully, and then renders a couple of rag-time ditties captivatingly. The Merry Messenger Boys sing some quaint American songs splendidly, whilst their dancing was of the highest class. Miss Beaumont Collins and company create roars of laughter in the comedy sketch, "Bedfellows." Miss Collins is excellent as Kathleen, a nurse, and Mr. David Baird very funny as a servant. Fred Duprez, the American humorist, is a king of mirth-makers. Others here are Jack Smiles, the quaint comedian and dancer; Gracie Graham, comedienne; and Sam Kelly, a smart Scotch comedian.

ALHAMBRA, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Alfred Butt; M., Mr. Edward Foster; Mus. D., Mr. Howard Croft.—The initial appearance of The Follies, including H. G. Pélissier, in a Glasgow variety house must rank as a gigantic success. There is an originality and freshness about their business which appeals to the lovers of pierrot comedy. Their singing and dancing items at all times reached a high standard, while the storyettes and jokes were of the most up-to-date description. In The Follies' edition of Dickens they were exceptionally clever, while highly diverting was the burlesque of "Excelsior" in the voice-culture absurdity. A veritable monument of mirth is Mr. Pélissier, and his capabilities for entertainment were never more pronounced, rounds of applause being accorded at the close. Grace Hazard presents something novel in a very smart contribution. Her clever protean act, coupled with her versatility as singer, dancer, and instrumentalist, gain for her hearty appreciation. Mysticism is the chief feature of the appearance of Mr. Hymack, in his chameleon specialty item, his amusing and mysterious experiences at Missitt Junction creating roars of laughter and calling forth rapturous applause. Harry Marlow, in light comedy numbers, scores heavily, his skit on the Insurance Bill being greatly enjoyed. Michael Madden, the dame comedian, is responsible for great merriment in his biographies of past and present celebrities, while his side-lights on everyday topics were heartily received. The vocal contributions of Madge White were charmingly rendered, and merited the flattering reception accorded. Belle Davis and Cracker Jacks present something unique in a magnificent song scena. This smart combination in songs, dances, and acrobatic work are exceptionally clever, and evoke the heartiest applause.

LYCEUM, GOVAN, LTD.—R. M., Mr. J. H. Oakden; Mus. D., Mr. Thos. Walker.—Miss May Moore-Duprez, the jolly little Dutch girl, is the chief attraction here. This popular artiste sings, dances, and talks in her well-known sprightly manner. Samaroff and Miss Sonia, the Russian peasants, introduce "A Sunny Afternoon in their Native Land." As equilibrists, they are exceptionally clever, and the antics of their trained dogs are extremely interesting. Tom Lloyd, the popular eccentric comedian, is good; while Phil and Nettie Peters are a clever couple in an original pot-pourri act. Leeburn's Ten Stars are a capable and cheery juvenile group, who stage a vocal scena, "Children's Holiday," the singing in this being well rendered, and the dancing done excellently. Edith Courtney, vocal comedienne, sings her songs well, and the interesting programme is brought to a finish by the Five Yorkshire Lassies, in a medley of song and dance.

OLYMPIA.—Lessees, Messrs. de Frece and Edelsten, Ltd.; M., Mr. John McMillan; Mus. D., Mr. Lex Holmes.—A splendid bill of fare is provided here this week, the programme submitted being one of exceptional merit. Gorman's Juveniles topped the bill, and had a great reception, being heard to great advantage in a refined vocal scena; while the Goodalls gave a marvellous vaulting trampoline act, doing treble somersaults from a horizontal bar. Woodward and Page, in a comedy speciality act, "Dancing Mad," created roars of laughter; and the efforts of Sable Three and Searle met with appreciation. A clever turn is submitted by Ragolio, the R. A. Tramp, in his rag picture studies, which were deservedly encored. The other members of the company include Gray and White, comedians and vocalists; Eddie Astor, the dancing juggler; Reuben Hill, character vocal actor; and a display of new and up-to-date pictures on the Olympia Bioscope.

SAVOY, LTD.—L., Messrs. Williams and Co.; M., Mr. H. Godwin.—That the Scottish national drama of "Rob Roy" still retains its power of attraction is evidenced from the crowded audiences which nightly attend this popular house. As an exponent of the fearless and rugged type of Scotch character, Mr. John Clyde is unsurpassed, and his conception of the hunted outlaw is at once masterly and convincing. The renowned actor is excellently supported by a strong cast. Mr. Durward Lely gives an admirable interpretation of Francis Osbaldistone, the high standard set being maintained throughout. A successful conception of Bailie Nicol Jarvie is presented by Mr. T. W. Benson, the pawky mannerisms of the jovial bailie being demonstrated with great skill. The Diana Vernon of Miss Pauline Donnan is charming in its simplicity, while in contradistinction the Helen Macgregor of Mrs. Durward Lely is bold and passionate, both being equally successful in their respective rôles. The sinister part of Rashleigh Osbaldistone receives capable treatment in the hands of Mr. Jas. Stillwell. In the difficult rôle of Dougal Cratur Mr. Millard Shevlin makes a highly commendable appearance, and adds much to the success of the production. The other parts are in capable hands. Interspersed throughout are vocal contributions from Mr. Durward Lely and Miss Pauline Donnan, which are heartily appreciated. The production is excellently staged, and is under the personal supervision of Mr. Clyde.

STAR PALACE, PARTICK.—P., Star Picture and Vaudeville Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. George Chandos.—The attractive bill put before patrons of the Star Palace, Partick, ensured big houses throughout the week. The Four Heidelbergs, in their muscular musical performance, give every satisfaction, while Shaw and Windar are highly successful in their business of comedy entertainers. The well-known Scotch comedian, Jack Hayworth, also gives a good account of himself; and pictures complete.

PRINGLE'S LTD.—M. D., Mr. Ralph Pringle; R. M., Mr. George Paulton; Mus. D., Mr. William Milne.—This week (twice nightly): Marion Scott, an admirable male impersonator, with clever and tuneful songs; while Eddie Walker proves an amusing and diverting comedian; pictures complete.

HENGLER'S, LTD.—M. D., Mr. A. Hengler; G. M., Mr. Harry Milne.—Paul J. Rainey's moving pictures of the British East African Expedition continue here for another week, the interest in which does not seem to have abated. The lecture is given by Mr. Harry Latimer, and the incidental music is in keeping with the spirit of the moving and exciting drama.

PANOPTICON.—Sole P., Mr. A. E. Pickard; M., Mr. W. Sinclair; S., Mr. G. E. Dunning.—This week (four times daily): Queenie Royal, soubrette; W. H. Smart, comedian and dancer; Harry Dale, comedian and dancer; Lake and Crimson, in comedy musical act, with performing dog; pictures.

CASINO.—P., Mr. A. E. Pickard; R. M., Mr. H. C. Glenroy.—This week (twice nightly): Jenny Foster, comedienne; Andy Fagan, comedian and dancer; the Mannons; pictures.

MARYHILL STAR.—P., Maryhill Star Palace, Ltd.; M., Mr. Wm. Howgate.—This week (twice nightly): Five Paolis, acrobats; Cissie Norton, comedienne.

IBROX PICTURE PALACE.—Sole P., Mr. A. E. Pickard; R. M., Mr. W. Sowerby.—This week (once nightly): Bert Kemble, comedian; Halgro and Royal, comedians; and pictures. Children's matinée, Saturday, at 3 p.m.

GLOSSOP.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P. & M., Mr. Sydney Spenser; A. M. & Mus. D., Mr. W. E. Cottrill.—This week (twice nightly): Miss Lois Du Cane's company in "For His King and the Girl He Loved." The cast includes: Mr. George Cruickshank, Mr. William Lawrance, Mr. Ernest W. Parr, Mr. Frank Corfield, Mr. George Swale, Mr. Leonard Grey, Mr. Alan Young, Mr. C. Whiteman, Miss Maude Ryder, Miss Beatrice Heron, Miss Lois Du Cane. Thursday, Friday and Saturday: "The Heathen and the Christian."

GLOUCESTER.

PALACE.—L. & G. M., Mr. Will Smithson; R. M., Mr. W. Rea.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. H. L. Osmond and Co. in "The Major." Cast includes: Dolly Seymour, Madge Lloyd, Cissie Stuart, Annie Tippetts, Violet Adley, Gladys Walkden, Dorothy Barron, Lizzie McQuire, Ida Conroy, Miss Ethel Glyde, Henry L. Osmond, Sylvester Stuart, Percy Foreman, Ernie Howard, Sid Dean, Harry Brace, Albert Allmark, Georgie Stephens, Sybil Hayen, Adeline Ridley, Violet English, Kitty Kay. T. M., Mr. Joseph L. S. Mess.

KING'S HALL.—L., Messrs. Poole's Theatres, Ltd.—This week: J. D. Hunter and company in "Put to the Test"; Mahatma, mental telepathist; and Ned Edwards, Welsh comedian.

GOOLE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Mr. P. Bennett.—This week (twice nightly): The Five Tritons, vocalists and instramentalists; and pictures.

COLISEUM.—M., Mr. R. Hainsworth; Asst. M., Mr. W. Hainsworth.—This week: Mr. Graham Woods and Archie Helsby present, on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, "Send Her Victorious." The company includes: Mr. Graham Woods, Mr. Arthur Helsby, Mr. Wm. Ludwig, Mr. Freddie Edwards, Mr. Roland A. Bridge, Mr. George Archie, Mr. Charles Moate, Mr. Tom Evans, Mr. Henry Ross, Mr. Fred West, Mr. Lionel Cartaret, Mr. Stanley Young, Mr. Albert Benson, Miss Florence Atack, Miss Madge Palmer, and Miss Marie Robson. Next week: "Hindle Wakes."

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—M., Mr. T. E. Rose.—This week (twice nightly): "The Orkis," in a vocal and dancing scena; and pictures.

GREENOCK.

KING'S THEATRE.—P. and M., Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright; Mus. D., Mr. W. T. Green.—This week (once nightly) Mr. Edwin T. Heys presents "Hindle Wakes." The cast includes: Mr. Edward Benson, Mr. Edward Cooper, Mr. F. Gerald Clifton, Mr. Harry Denvil, Miss Nellie Stott, Miss Altona Stafford, Miss Marie Grace, Miss Dorothy Day, and Miss Frances Kendall. T. M., Mr. Harry Denvil. Next week: Linga Singh and variety.

GRIMSBY.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. J. H. Curry; Mus. D., Mr. J. R. Bingley.—"Jelf's" is being presented this week. The company includes Mr. Percy Robinson, Mr. Arthur McCulloch, Mr. F. Cyril Leighton, Mr. Edward Ouston, Mr. J. Court Harvard, Mr. William Podmore, Mr. Tom Howard, Miss Edith Cruikshanks, Miss Marjorie Lawton, and Miss Cynthia Challis.

PALACE.—G. M., Mr. F. Verner Walford; A. M., Mr. H. S. Surfleet; Mus. D., Mr. T. Stevens.—This week: Mr. Fred Emney's company, including Mr. J. M. Campbell and Miss Winnie Harbor, in "A Sister to Assist 'Er"; the De Mayos, comediennes and dancers; George Bass, comedian; the Rangers, trick and comedy cyclists; Frank Hemming and Marie Free, in comedy act; the Gillettes, in "The Crazy Postman"; Harry Blake, comedian; and the Fuji Troupe, Japanese equilibrists.

HALIFAX.

ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. Wm. Robinson; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; Mus. D., Mr. Edwin James.—This week: "The Highwayman," produced by Mr. G. Edward Hall.

GRAND.—M. D., Mr. Wm. Robinson; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; R. M., Mr. Joe Hinton.—This week: Mr. E. L. Garside's company, in "A Girl's Good Luck." Company includes: Messrs. Wentworth Fane, Lionel French, Beric Hammersley, Ben Roby, Wm. Attfield, Millar Wilson, John Nicol, Alfred Askers, and Misses Evelyn M. Walton, Winifred Love, Nettie French, and Nellie Garside. T. M., Mr. Leslie Vyner. Next week: "Ruin of a Countess."

PALACE.—M. D., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. Edgar O. Waller; Mus. D., Mr. Ernest A. Widdup.—This week: The Kellinos, in "The Crazy Tailors"; Will Gesta and Winnie Hoe, entertainers; Four Joburg Girls, comediennes and dancers; Sidney E. Camp and Dora Critic, in "Waxworks"; Billy Brown; Kittie Douglas, comedienne; Jack Stocks; Downes and Langford, comedians.

HAMILTON.

HIPPODROME.—Sole P., Mr. E. H. Bostock; M., Mr. R. C. Clayton; A. M., Mr. M. C. Byrne.—This week (twice nightly): Fred Russell and Lillian Held, American entertainers; the Carmody Trio, comedy jugglers; Karl and Eddie, two boys and a piano; Sisters Lindon, dancers; Miss May Mars; Hillier and Haynes, comedians; Kate and Tom Major, in sketch, "After the Overture"; Wal Langtry, comedian.

HANLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., The Hanley Theatres and Circus, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; M., Mr. Frank Powis.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Percy Hutchison presents "Brewster's Millions." The company includes: Mr. Percy Hutchison, Mr. Gerald Fitzgerald, Mr. Ernest Deans, Mr. T. Gordon-Blyth, Mr. Henry Hampson, Mr. Herbert Marshall, Mr. V. S. Haye, Mr. Chas. Bedells, Mr. Henry Byatt, Mr. Walter Plinge, Mr. F. G. Thurstans, Mr. A. Paynter, Mr. F. Hunter, Mr. W. Hughes, Messrs. Yates and Green, Mr. F. Gordon, Messrs. Forbes and Brown, Miss Lilias Earle, Miss Claire Milvain, Miss Gwenda Villiers, Miss Muriel Nevison, Miss Betty Linley, and Miss Elsie Stranack. T. M., Mr. H. Hampson. Matinée, Thursday, 2 p.m. Next week: "Gipsy Love."

GRAND.—P., Hanley Theatres and Circus, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Chas. G. Elphinstone; M., Mr. F. Dudman Bromwich.—This week: Fred Kitchen and company in "Bungle's Luck"; Tom and Marie Motramo; Maud Hughes, soprano; Phil Bransby, comedian; the Four Cheres, dancers; the Olympian Team of Cyclist Footballers; Hector and Lolletta and dog; and pictures.

KING'S.—L., Mr. J. P. Moore; M., Mr. Colin Hazlewood.—This week: The Sisters Relsek, duettists and dancers; and pictures.

HARROGATE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. W. Peacock.—This week (once nightly, and Saturday matinée, 2.30): The—F. R. Benson company, in "The Taming of the Shrew" (Monday), "If I were King" (Tuesday), "Othello" (Wednesday), "The Comedy of Errors" (Thursday), "If I were King" (Friday), "As You Like It" (Saturday matinée), "Hamlet" (Saturday). Company includes: Basil Rathbone, Edmund Sulley, S. B. Bickmore, Frank Freeman, F. Woodcock Denman, J. Leslie Lilburn, Lilian Laurence, Brunhild Muller, Evelyn Vanderzee, Muriel Dawn, Peggy Talbot Daniel, Madge K. Yardley, Gladys Vanderzee, Charles Warburton, John Cairns, Duncan Yarrow, Andrew Leigh, Basil Orborne, Horace Braham, E. Pardoe Woodman, Henry Herbert.

KURSAAL.—M., Mr. J. E. Wilshire; Mus. D., Mr. Julian Clifford.—This week: The Georgians, concert party, under the direction of Robert Carr. The company consists of the Misses Coles, Castille, and Trevor, and Messrs. Hearne, Vivian, Carr, and Wallace, and Mr. Eustace Wallace.

HARTLEPOOL.

EMPRESS.—L. & M., Mr. Albert Maxsted; Mus. D., Mr. Carter Staincliffe.—This week: J. Forbes Knowles' and Harry Masterman's company in "Nick Carter" and "In a Man's Power." The company includes: Messrs. J. Forbes Knowles, Walter Clarke, Wm. Burgess, Roger Joyner, Ed. Wishaw, Frank Thompson, Harry C. Member, Gerald Henshaw, G. Harris, Alfred Sinclair, and Will Ellythorne, and Misses Mary Lovett, Ella Vane, Susie Bevan, Edith Manton, Nellie Waddington, E. Kenyon, and Daphne Grey. Touring-Manager: Mr. Wm. Burgess.

HASTINGS.

GAIETY THEATRE.—M., Mr. H. W. Rowland; R. A. M., Mr. C. E. Scutt.—This week (matinée, Saturday, 2.30): Miss Ida Molesworth's and Mr. Mark Blow's company in "Little Miss Llewelyn." The company includes: Messrs. Sidney Evans, Arthur Edgar, Hugh Robinson, Harding Thomas, Edward Jones, Gareth Hughes, Owen Pryce, David Reece, Edward Lloyd, Misses Louie Williams, Rachel Jones, Eleanor Daniels, Evelyn Evans. Manager, Mr. Edward Leith; Advance-Manager, Mr. Cliffe Dover. Preceded by "A Girl in Every Port."

PIER PAVILION.—M., Mr. Chas. Hawker.—This week: Mr. Raynor and company in repertory, including "Moths," Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, and matinée, Saturday; "Billy's Little Love Affair" and "A Tale of Two Cities" latter half of week. The company includes: Messrs. Raynor, Clinton, Baddeley, Milton, C. Curtis, H. Melville Chiswell, Charles Brandon, Tom Welsh, R. C. Littlebury, Reg. Winter, Misses Nellie Bonsor, Hilda Blanche, Gertrude Bonsor, Ennis Lawson.

PALACE PIER, ST. LEONARDS.—M., Mr. Elvey Thomas.—This week: The Exceldas Costume Concert Party, including Miss Nellie Birtles, soubrette and dancer; Mr. Arthur Testi, light comedian; Miss Ethel Deane, soprano entertainer and accompanist; Mr. Percy C. Bryant, baritone vocalist; Miss Vera May and Mr. Shaun Desmond, comedian. Manager, Mr. Shaun Desmond.

HUDDERSFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; B. M., Mr. Fred Benton.—This week (once nightly and matinée, Saturday, 2.15): Mr. Cyril Maude's company in "Bunty Pulls the Strings." Cast includes: Mr. Colin M. Johnston, Mr. Lowe Mackenzie, Mr. Anthony Calder, Mr. A. P. Roxburgh, Mr. James Duncan, Miss Adah Dick, Mrs. Arthur Yates, Miss Winnie Smith, Mrs. Ross Campbell, Miss Stella Campbell. Preceded by "The Price of Coal." Next week: J. W. Turner Opera Co.

HIPPODROME.—P., The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. William Robinson; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; R. M., Mr. S. Winks; M. D., Mr. T. Hoyle.—This week: Mr. George A. De Gray and Mr. Harry Masterman present (twice nightly): "The Indian Scout." The company includes: Mr. George A. De Gray, Mr. Max Coutts, Mr. David Blair, Mr. Tyrone Power, Mr. Reginald J. Turner, Mr. Seymour Perry, Miss Kitty Fitzgerald, Miss Doris Brereton, Miss Etta Turner, and Miss Violet Ingram.

PALACE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. J. S. Barnett.—This week (twice nightly): Toby Claude in "A Night of Ragtime"; Walter Munroe, comedian; Burley and Burley, comedians; Rosa Loader at the piano; Thorpe and Coe, in "My Burglar"; Isa Wise, comedienne; Daunton Shaw troupe of cyclists; Ben Albert, the dry old stick; and pictures.

TIVOLI.—L., Kingston Varieties Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Harry Slingsby.—This week (twice nightly): Clarke's Crazy Cycling Comedians; the Three Lyres, musical trio; Queenie May; the Harley Boys, entertainers; Frank Fort, comedian; Irve-Hayman and company in "Christmas Eve"; Jack Stezelly, juggler; Les Videos, wonders on wheels; Denaro Bros., equilibrists.

HYDE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. B. Pareezer; R. M., Mr. Tom N. Mills.—This week (once nightly): Mr. J. W. Turner's English Opera Co. in "Maritana," "Cavalleria Rusticana," "Daughter of the Regiment," "Faust," "Il Trovatore," "Don Giovanni," and "Bohemian Girl."

HIPPODROME.—This week (twice nightly): Little Hackenschmidt, wrestler; and pictures.

DENTON EMPIRE.—P. and M., Mr. A. Ward, F.R.G.S.; M. D., Mr. W. E. Marsden.—This week (once nightly, and matinée, Saturday): Wee Georgie Beck, phenomenal child comedian; G. W. Holly, rag-time comedian and dancer; and pictures.

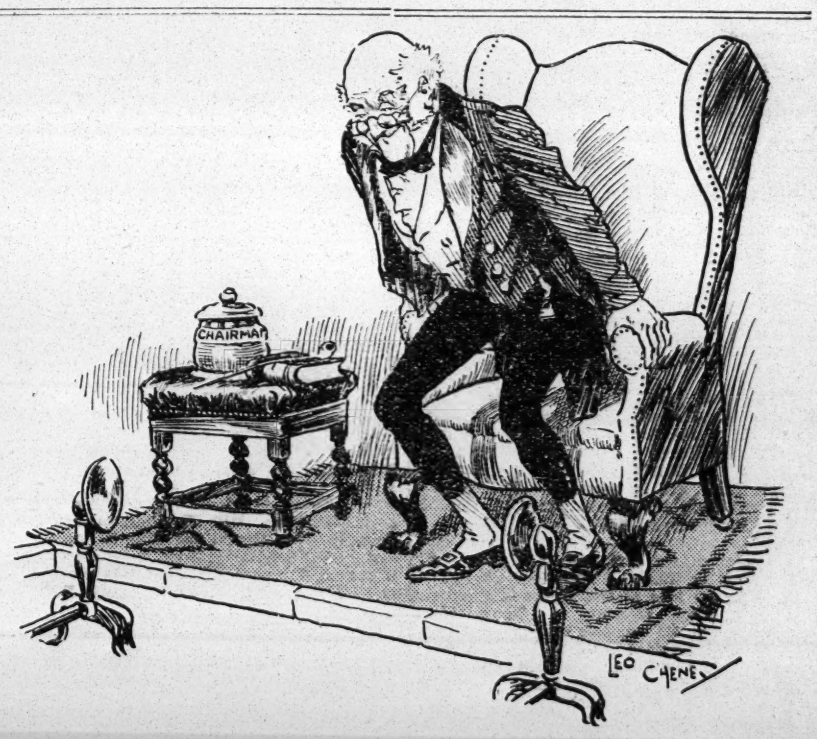
ILKESTON.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PICTUREDROME.—P., Mr. Leon Vint; R. M., Mr. Aubrey Allen.—This week: Sisters Geretti, gymnasts, on the double trapeze; Two Brilliants, musical show; Three Lascelles, in "The Aviators"; and pictures.

INVERNESS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Messrs. F. and R. Kelso.—This week: Mackinnon's Scotch Meisters, including A. B. Mackinnon, the Highland comedian, and pictures.

(*Continued on page 25.*)



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OUR AMATEURS.

The Senior Service was very much in evidence at the Dulwich Municipal Hall on Wednesday last, when the Georgians produced "The Flag Lieutenant," for, in addition to the men in uniform on duty in the hall, the bluejackets, marines, etc., on the stage were recruited from the ranks of the St. Katherine's Lads' Naval Brigade, Rotherhithe, for whose funds, together with the Brotherhood of the Cheerful Sparrows, the three performances were given. Of the thirty-four named members of the cast, all worked well together with a sailor-like smartness and smoothness which reflects credit on the producer, Mr. Colley Salter, and it would be invidious to emphasise a slight "fluffiness" in some cases, which no doubt was absent after the first night. Mr. Leonard Forbes got well into the skin of the part of the flag lieutenant, Dickie Lascelles, and was always nonchalant and alert. Mr. Archie Hoyles, as the less picturesque "Bill" Thesiger, did what he could with a rather "stodgy" character. Mr. Percy Eccles was dignified as Admiral Wynne; and Messrs. Leslie Griffin and Samuel Bishop were humorous as the two self-important, irresponsible midshipmen. Mr. Reginald Western doubled the small parts of Memeti Sales and General Gough-Bogle, and was very clever in two widely differing characters. Miss Winnie Oughton played with careful experience as Mrs. Cameron, and handled the trying scene in the third act cleverly. Miss Dorothy Mears was a sweet and womanly Lady Hermione Wynne, her emotional touch not being overdone. Miss Brenda Cross resisted the temptation to over-act the part of Mrs. Gough-Bogle; and Miss Alice Forbes was quietly effective as Lady Dugdale. The crowded hall should ensure a satisfactory financial result.

The newly formed Wine Trade D.S., whose principal object is to provide dramatic and operatic entertainments in aid of the very deserving funds of the Wine and Spirit Trades' Charities, as administered by their Benevolent Society, deserved better numerical support than it received at its first performance at the King's Hall Theatre on April 16. The performance of Mr. J. H. McCarthy's amusing piece, in three acts, "My Friend, the Prince," which was given under the direction of Mr. Harry E. King, was a little unequal, and would have been improved if the pace had been quickened at times. Mr. King stage-managed, and was also responsible for a good deal of the laughter of the evening by his very funny fooling in the part of Ambrose Pinning. His whole demeanour and his manœuvres with his sword in the Pannonian uniform were a joy to behold. Mr. C. Herbert Walther was always charming and urbane as the "missing" Prince Maurice; and Mr. Benjamin Oddy did not disappoint expectations, founded on previous appearances, by his playing of the part of Pink Jannaway. Promising work, which showed signs of inexperience in some instances, was also done by Messrs. W. Williamson, V. H. Seyd, C. Cary-Elwes, and A. W. Folks. Of the ladies of the company, Miss Alice Skuse carried off chief honours by her very clever and dainty work as the fascinating Gilberte Picard. Her accent and impersonation were consistently sustained, and helped the piece greatly. Miss Evelyn Parberry fulfilled her chief duties of looking dignified and regal as the Princess of Pannonia with complete success; and Miss E. Boddington was seen too little as the maid, Bennett. Miss Ticie Mills and Miss Dorothy M. Smith were painstaking as Pensy and Poppy Jannaway, and no doubt further experience will develop their dramatic ability. The setting of the one scene by Messrs. T. Ireby Cape was rewarded by a special round of applause for its gorgeous completeness. The Wine Trade D.S. have every encouragement to go on to greater success in the future.

For their seventeenth public appearance, the Idlers' A.D.C. presented Mr. James Henry Darndley's very amusing three-act farcical comedy, "Facing the Music," at St. John's Hall, Richmond, on April 12. Though the performance began considerably after the scheduled time, when the company once got to work the piece was well carried through in a spirit of brisk farce, which produced abundant laughter for the amusingly impossible situations. Mr. Hermann K. Scott worked hard and successfully as "the other Mr. Smith," and always conveyed an impression of reality; and Mr. E. J. Partridge was true to type as a stage curate. Mr. Rex G. Blundell was lightly amusing as the irresponsible guest, Dick Desmond. Miss Aileen Blundell looked pretty, and acted with a good deal of charm and humour as the curate's wife, Mabel; Miss Madge Rudler gave excellent support as the other Mr. Smith's wife, Nora; and a succinct and motherly Mrs. Ponting was the work of Miss Ruby Cobbett. Other parts were adequately filled by Miss Kathleen Hooper and Messrs. R. Hannen and V. W. Dougherty.

At the Royal Court Theatre, on May 16, the Amateur Stage Club will give a matinée performance in aid of the Bryn-y-Mendi Home of Rest connected with Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses. "Tilda's New Hat" and "One Summer's Day" will be presented. Tickets may be obtained from the Misses Ward, 3, Chester Houses, Chester-square, S.W.

The annual dinner and concert of the "St. Olaves" Amateur Musical Association (whose Friday concerts are held at the Talbot Restaurant, City) took place recently at Cannon-street Hotel, when over 300 members sat down to a récherché repast, presided over by the president, Mr. H. Goodchild, with vice-president Mr. E. A. Ashton as his vis-à-vis. The society is in its fortieth season, and it says much for its high popularity that so many ribbon-bedecked past presidents, including Mr. W. R. Marchbank, who was elected in 1873, were present. Speech-making was commendably curtailed, and at the conclusion of dinner an interesting little ceremony was a collection for charities, which realised over £14.

Amongst those who contributed to the musical portion of the evening were the Gresham Glee Singers, a well-balanced quartette, whose tuneful vocalism was keenly enjoyed; Mr. Will Randall, a prime favourite, in some rollicking chorus songs; Mr. Frank Clark, whose expressive tenor voice was well displayed in a couple of ballads; Mr. Gurney Russell, in his cheeriest vein, and whose songs were warmly received; and Mr. Reginald Penson, in numbers which were deservedly encored. Mr. Mark Attwood was an efficient pianist; and Mr. R. B. Applebee ably fulfilled the duties of musical-director. To Mr. George Knott, the popular hon. secretary, was accorded a special vote of thanks.

The Streatham Shakespeare Players gave their fourth annual performance at the Streatham Town Hall on Saturday last, the programme consisting of some little acted scenes from "King Richard II.," and the greater part of "The Two Gentlemen of Verona," both given on a draped stage with the simplest accessories. The carefully prepared annotated programme, the intelligent reading of the parts, the generally good elocution, and the evident signs of careful rehearsal helped to produce an interesting evening's entertainment. In the first part of the programme Miss Edith Evans as the Duchess of York acquitted herself well in the scene with Bolingbroke, in which she pleads for her son, and she was well supported by Mr. A. E. Stanbridge as Aumerle. Mr. W. D. Carey spoke impressively the fine speech of the Bishop of Carlisle, and Mr. Ewart Wheeler made all his points as the First Gardener. Miss Ruby Markillie was tragic as Richard's Queen, and Mr. A. J. Beck acted and spoke well as Bolingbroke, when he had once acquired the pitch of the hall. In "The Two Gentlemen of Verona" Mr. William Baker's performance as Valentine stood out, and Mr. Reginald Denham as the infatuated and rather self-conscious lover of Julia and Silvia was excellent. Miss Gertrude Grebby's Julia was marked by intelligence, and she acted vividly in the scenes with Lucetta and with Proteus. Miss Cissie Harris was inclined to take the part of Silvia too slowly; Mr. S. Foote was very good as the clownish servant, Speed; and though Mr. W. Holmes Clarke was not quite distinct as Launce, both he and his dog thoroughly entered into the spirit of the play. The Kensington Quartette were encored for their singing of the serenade, "Who is Silvia?" and Miss Helen Griffiths and Mr. H. Morant played very acceptable selections of music during the evening.

The hall of the Northampton Polytechnic Institute, Clerkenwell, is large, but it was filled to overflowing on Thursday evening last by the friends of the Northerners' Dramatic Club, who rocked with laughter at the humours of "The Magistrate," excellently interpreted by the company. The performance was not over till a late hour, but the interest of the audience was retained till the end. Mr. Douglas Veryard, the hon. dramatic secretary, had a great deal to do as the unfortunate magistrate, Mr. Posket, and did it exceedingly well. He was particularly good in the magistrate's scene of the third act, where he played in a spirit of farcical comedy, in which the comedy was not overpowered by the farce. Mr. Bert Pinchin carried conviction as the smart pseudo schoolboy, Cis Farringdon; two quietly good bits of characterisation came from Mr. H. St. Clair Ingram as the melancholy Captain Vale; and Mr. Ted Willingale as the magistrate's clerk, Mr. Wormington Mr. George Lord as a retired colonel from Bengal did not overdo the "peppery" business, and Mr. Thomas Abbott contributed another study of police court magistrates in the person of the bronchial Mr. Bullamy. "The Force" was smartly represented by Mr. Norman Peacock, a realistic Inspector Messiter, Mr. Frank Goring as Sergeant Lugg, and Mr. Will Gasson as Constable Harris. Mr. Will James and Mr. Wilfrid Barker played their small parts of the proprietor and waiter at the Hotel des Princes very well, and Mr. Willie Banks was well in the picture as the stolid butler, Wyke. Miss Carrie Hedges showed the value of experience in her playing as Agatha Pesket, every quiet action and easy movement taking effect. Miss Rosamund Clark was always on the spot as Charlotte Verrinder, and made the most of her humorous supper-table opportunities. Miss Elsie Alister played prettily as Beattie Tomlinson, and Miss Florence Hardwicke efficiently completed the cast as the maid, Ingham. The production reflects great credit on the stage-manager, Mr. H. St. Clair Ingram, and the financial result should be a considerable addition to the funds of the benevolent society on whose behalf it was given.

In the Provinces.

The local operatic society are occupying the boards of the New Theatre, Oxford, this week, performing Basil Hood and Edward German's comic opera, "Merrie England." The opening performance on Tuesday night went without a hitch from start to finish, and won liberal applause. The dresses were particularly bright and effective, and the chorus of some sixty performers acquitted themselves admirably, speaking volumes for their drilling by Mr. Avalon Collard, who produced the opera for the amateurs, as he has done on former occasions. The augmented theatre band did full justice to the music, under the skilful direction of Mr. W. H. Higginson. The acting was good all round. Mr. Fred Long sang and acted well as the Earl of Essex, and Mr. Lloyd Saxton was also excellent as Sir Walter Raleigh. Mr. Gerald Brownsill was highly amusing as Walter Wilkins, Mr. Russell Lewis well backing him up as another player, Simkins. The Royal Foresters' Long Tom and Big Ben found stalwart exponents with capital voices in Messrs. T. Foate and B. Seymour. As a baker, Mr. M. K. Turner showed what could be made of a small part. Mr. A. Cooper was droll and active as the Queen's Fool, and Mr. F. H. Ballard spoke his lines remarkably well as a lord-in-waiting. Miss Phyllis Horwood was a handsome and dignified Queen Elizabeth, Miss Mabel Radbone sang splendidly as Bessie Throckmorton, Mrs. E. W. M. Higgs acted with plenty of life and considerable power as Jill-All-Alone, Miss May Sircom was a very charming May Queen, and Miss Madge Shillingford and Miss Peggy Hunt were a smart pair of pages. Some excellent dances were contributed by Miss Dolly Sanger and Miss Gladys Huggins.

On Saturday and Monday last a production of T. W. Robertson's comedy, "Caste," was put on at the Cheetham Public Hall, Manchester, by the Lester Dramatic Company. A very good attempt was made to realise the possibilities of the play by the members concerned, the whole being produced and rehearsed under the direction of Mr. Harry Podmore. Eccles, a very tempting part to amateurs with a bent toward character, was undertaken by Mr. Harry Podmore, who brought out the humour of it with remarkable confidence and realism. The cast was fortunate in including also Miss Minnie Swan, whose impersonation of Esther was carried through with a naturalness and sincerity that gave quite an air of vraisemblance to the action; while in the rôle of the Hon. George D'Alroy, a clean, sympathetic, and decidedly promising preformance was given by Mr. Robert Jones. The part of Captain Hawtree came easy to Mr. Harry Faragher, who showed experience in deportment, as well as in the many little tricks of delivery and facial expression which go to make a telling impersonation. Mr. Fred Crow, as Sam Gerridge, erred rather on the side of exuberance; and the same may be said of Miss Addie Ostins, as Polly Eccles, though it is but fair to add that Miss Ostins gave signs now and then of a talent for more serious work. Miss Alice McIlwrick's depiction of the Marquise de St. Maur was cleverly done; and the remaining part of Dixon was filled by Mr. Martin Hudson. Orchestral accompaniment was under the direction of Mr. W. C. Mather.

The Newcastle Amateur Operatic Society has possession of the Tyne Theatre this week, and on Monday night presented "Ruddigore" before a large and fashionable audience. As Robin Oakapple Mr. Norman Wright sang, acted, and danced delightfully, and Richard Dauntless was capitally played by Mr. E. T. Heenan. Mr. Arthur Ridley took full advantage of his numerous opportunities as Sir Despard Murgatroyd, and Mr. R. Gillender was well placed as Old Adam Goodheart. Miss D. Lindon Travers scored a distinct success as Rose Maybud, and the same may be said of Mrs. Colin Veitch as Mad Margaret, her singing being exceptionally fine. "The Chieftain" was billed for Tuesday.

The Rhondda Operatic Society brought their third season to a close recently at the Judges' Hall, Trealaw, with a performance of Gilbert and Sullivan's "H.M.S. Pinafore," which proved to be undoubtedly their best effort. The principals and chorus worked well in unison, and the entire production was gone through without a hitch. Great credit is due to Messrs. J. Thomas and W. J. Davies, who acted as joint producers and stage-managers. Miss Florrie Jones as Josephine won her way into the favour of the crowded audiences by her expressive acting, captivating singing, and graceful dancing, for all of which she won unstinted praise. The rôle of Mrs. Cripps was cleverly delineated by Mrs. Stephen Hughes, whose vocal and histrionic abilities are of high standard. The First Lord of the Admiralty was excellently portrayed by Mr. Jacque Thomas. He was quickly a prime favourite. Mr. William Davies as Captain Corcoran gave a finished portrayal, and his vocal numbers provoked loud applause. Mr. Uri Jones, who possesses a capital tenor voice, scored a big success as Ralph. Dick Deadeye found an able exponent in Mr. Hugh Thomas. Mr. Ted Davies, as the boatswain, made the most possible of the character. Miss Emma Lewis, as Cousin Hebe, was well suited to the part. Mr. Edward Evans, as Bob Beckett, and Master Willie Jones, as Tom Tucker, made the most of their opportunities. A first-class orchestra and well-trained chorus, under the conductorship of Mr. David Lloyd, I.S.M., did full justice to Sullivan's music. Due attention had been paid to details of "make-up" and staging by Mr. Evan Treharne.

A smart little children's operetta is "Amos, the Ambitious," in four acts, by Sydney Walton, music by G. F. Burgiss and Percy Goddard, and performed by over 100 Buxton children in the Opera House there recently on three evenings in aid of local charities. A vast amount of patience and endurance must have been experienced by Miss Flossie M. McLachlan, who undertook the brunt of the work of teaching, but the result was of great encouragement to further efforts. The youngsters took to the boards quite naturally, and some really clever impersonations were brought to light. Miss Doris Beardmore made a distinct hit in the title-rôle, and very delightful also was Miss Nellie Bennett as Rudolph, her singing being much enjoyed by full houses. A clever part was that of Prudence by Miss Gladys Skidmore, and the parts of the Baron and the Scoutmaster proved remarkable successes. Master J. Fanshaw was a garrulous Peter, and the two Indian maiden copies of Misses Ethel Wildgoose and Marjory Nesbitt were prettily sustained. The Scout act was thoroughly enjoyed. A couple of characters well worth noticing were those of Grubbins, by Master Harry Critchlow, and of Babette, most confidently assumed by Miss Whiston Critchlow. Some pretty scenery was on view, and Miss McLachlan was her own stage-manager, a part of the large round of work that was well carried out. Encores were so prolific that many had to be declined. The producer is entitled to great praise for the thorough manner in which the operetta was placed upon the boards, attention to detail being strictly adhered to. Mr. G. F. Burgiss was musical-director, and the accompaniments were ably provided by Mr. P. Goddard.

The Gainsborough Amateur Operatic Society, now in their third year, recently appeared in "Iolanthe" at the King's Theatre, for four nights and a matinée, and broke all their previous records as regards attendance. The opera, which was produced under the direction of Mr. Shelford Walsh, reflected great credit upon him and the whole of the members of the society. Mr. J. G. Bowen gave a clever rendering of the Lord Chancellor, the trio in which he was joined by Mountararat and Tolloller being repeatedly encored, and his rendering of the famous patter song was excellent. The two peers were well represented by Mr. F. G. Wileman and Mr. J. D. Johnson. Mrs. Reaveley gave a charming rendition of Phyllis, and she was well supported by Mr. A. W. Milner as Strephon. Miss A. M. Brown sang sweetly as Iolanthe, and the smaller characters of Celia, Lelia, and Fleta had pleasing representatives in Misses Eva Smith, D. Paget, and Jessie Bartle. Mr. J. W. Williamson sang the well-known song allotted to Private Willis in excellent style, and Mrs. Nicholson gave a capable rendering of the Queen of the Fairies. The chorus of peers and fairies was powerful and well trained, and together with the orchestra, under the direction of Mr. W. A. Montgomery, Mus. Bac., proved a most successful feature. The scenery provided by Mr. A. Lewis (Mr. Arthur Carlton's resident-manager) was effective, and the dresses and general mounting of the opera all that could be desired.

The Bury St. Edmunds Amateur Operatic Society recently scored once more a triumph by their performance of "San Toy," the box office returns for the week breaking the record of the society. Mr. James Mason's Li was an admirable impersonation of the wily Chinaman, his play of expression being particularly clever. Mr. H. J. Jarman looked well and sang splendidly as Capt. Bobbie Preston; Mayor E. Jackson portraying the much-married Mandarin, Yen How, with humorous dignity. An outstanding feature was Mr. F. W. Attree's Sir Bingo Preston; although taking the part at short notice, his acting was admirable. Mr. Alfred Hooper gave a clever study of the Emperor, and Mr. Colton E. Clarke acquitted himself excellently as Fo Hop; Capt. Kendle playing well the rôle of Harvey Tucker. Of the ladies, Mrs. Donald Hunter submitted a delightful presentation of Dudley; Miss Mildred Allingham, possessing a lovely soprano voice, was dainty in the title-rôle; Mrs. Christopher acted well and looked chic as Poppy; Ko Fan, of the Emperor's Own, found a dashing exponent in Miss Iris Roberts; and praise is due to Miss Grace Hedges for her clever portrayal of Yung Shi. Miss Lilla Tinkler, as première danseuse, was loudly acclaimed for her *pas seul* in Act II. The minor characters were well presented. Mr. W. Simms-Bull, as stage-manager, merits warm congratulation. The singing of chorus and principals reflected high credit on Mr. E. Percy Hallam, F.R.C.O., the musical-director. The business officials, Mayor E. Jackson (hon. sec.), Mr. H. G. King (assistant hon. sec.), and Mr. H. Lindsey (treasurer) worked well, and much of the success was due to the untiring efforts of Mr. J. H. Crombie, the business-manager.

The Lyric Club, of Glasgow, are reviving, at the King's Theatre, "Paul Jones," and as Planquette's tuneful opera has not been given in Glasgow for over twenty years, it is welcome. An excellent performance of the opera is given under the conductorship of Mr. Ed. R. Joachim, and the able stage management of Mr. Charles Graham. The work is admirably staged, the chorus sing their numbers with excellent swing and enthusiasm, and all the principals give a first-rate account of themselves. As Yvonne, the heroine of the opera, to whom falls many of the daintiest songs and most of the heavy work throughout, Miss Jeannie Peters made a great hit, and alike in her singing and acting showed no trace of the amateur. All her numbers were heartily and deserved encored. Miss Gertrude Simpson, as Chopinette, was also well suited, and her songs were charmingly rendered, and repeated by insistent demand. Mr. Gregor McGregor, in the part of Paul Jones, made a handsome sailor lad in the first act, and was also picturesque in his other costumes. He has a good baritone voice, of which he made excellent use, both in solos and concerted music. Mr. J. Craig Boyle, as Rufino, has a somewhat ungracious part to play, but he acted well, and his tenor voice is of good quality. Miss Minnie B. Paton was a picturesque and stately Malaguena. As Bicoquet Mr. Edwin Templeton gave a clever study of character, and his share of the duet with Yvonne in Act II. was most artistically done. Mr. Archie McLay, as Bouillabaise, and Mr. Alex. Shaw as Petit Pierre, brought out the humour of the two jolly sea-dogs well; and Mr. Stanley G. Smith, as Don Trocadero, gave a most amusing portrayal of the eccentric Spanish Governor. Mr. J. Manning Fellows contributed a clever rendering of the part of the senile Haricot. One of the features of the performance was a ballet of eight dancers, with Miss Bessie Runcie as première danseuse, and their dance was so neatly and artistically done that a recall was unanimous. The opera commenced on Tuesday and was played for the remainder of the week, with a matinée on Saturday, the proceeds being devoted to the Commercial Travellers' of Scotland Benevolent Fund for Widows and Orphans.

The Folkestone Amateur Dramatic Club have achieved what is undoubtedly their greatest success up to the present, with three performances of "The Prisoner of Zenda," at the Pleasure Gardens Theatre, this week. For this their most ambitious production to date, this energetic club secured the services of Mr. H. B. Hampton, the manager of the Pleasure Gardens, as producer and stage-manager, and the result has certainly justified their selection. The principal honours of the evening fell to Mr. T. Harrison's really fine character study of Col. Sapt; Mr. F. Seager's powerful representation of the Black Elphberg, Duke Michael; and Mr. W. S. Tayler's clever doubling of King Rudolph, the Red Elphberg, and Rudolph Rassendyl. Fritz von Tarlenheim was played in dashing style by Mr. P. Norman, and Princess Flavia was very prettily portrayed by Miss M. Hughes. Miss J. Jones gave a performance of some power and pathos as Antoinette de Mauban. The performance was enthusiastically received by delighted audiences.

The Carmarthen Amateur Operatic Society, who have already performed "H.M.S. Pinafore," "The Mikado," "Patience," "The Yeomen of the Guard," etc., further distinguished itself last week on the boards at the Rink Picturedrome, when Gilbert and Sullivan's comic opera, "The Gondoliers" (by permission of Mrs. D'Oyly Carte) was produced by Mr. E. V. Collier. The staging and scenery were excellent; the stage, which was specially built, had an opening of 34ft., giving ample room to the large chorus and dancers. We must here compliment Miss Gwladys Thomas, who arranged the dances. This year the committee were approached by Sir Owen Philips (joint M.F.H.) and Lady Philipps, to arrange the performance to be given Hunt Week. This was readily agreed to, and on Tuesday "The Gondoliers" was performed under the patronage of Sir Owen and Lady Philipps, and the members of the Carmarthenshire Hunt. The production was a very successful one, and reflects much credit on the members of the society. The orchestra and well-trained chorus of about fifty, under the bâton of Mr. Harold Malkin, F.R.C.O., did full justice to the piece. Of the principals, Mr. A. R. Davies, as the Duke of Plaza-Toro, did extremely well; as did Mr. H. C. Cooke, as Luiz. Mr. H. Reeves gave a capital interpretation of the part of the Grand Inquisitor. Mr. P. L. Roberts and Mr. Dan Bartlett were very popular as the Gondoliers; and Gianetta and Tessa, taken by Miss Wheldon and Miss May Matthews, were really excellent. Miss Winnie Stephens, as the Duchess of Plaza-Toro, and Mrs. H. C. Cooke, as Casilda, were well received, their singing and acting being alike good.

The Weston-super-Mare Amateur Operatic Society gave four performances recently of that evergreen and popular opera, "The Yeomen of the Guard" (by kind permission of Mrs. D'Oyly Carte), at the Knightstone Pavilion, Weston-super-Mare. This is their fifth annual production, and it can safely be said that the society have never done anything better or anything so much appreciated or better patronised. Mr. J. Rushworth has been indefatigable in his efforts to bring the production to as near perfection as possible, and well was he awarded, for the piece went from start to finish without a hitch. The piece was sumptuously staged. The chorus and band numbered over seventy, though for so large a chorus it lacked volume. As Elsie Maynard Miss Winifred Thomas sang with a sweet and cultured voice, her rendering of "'Tis done! I am a bride" was rapturously encored; the simplicity of her acting, too, was delightful. Miss Esther Paul, as Phœbe Meryll, looked charming, and her singing and acting would have done credit to a professional. Any character entrusted to Mrs. Treliving is assured of an artistic delineation, and her Dame Carruthers fully maintained the artiste's reputation. Miss Edith F. Lidstone excelled as Kate. Mr. Leslie J. Fussland has never been seen to such advantage; his Jack Point was replete with artistic touches. Mr. R. Hoare Byers, as Colonel Fairfax, possesses a sweet voice, which he made the most of in the song, "Is life a boon?" The impersonation of Wilfred Shadbolt was an artistic treat, such as is always given by Mr. F. W. Beve. Sergeant Meryll was entrusted to Mr. Wallace Taylor, who will do better with more experience. Mr. P. N. Goman, as Leonard Meryll, sang well, but should pay attention to his enunciation. Mr. A. G. Pell-Hiley did fairly well as Sir Richard Cholmondeley, though a little attention to deportment would have greatly improved his performance. Mr. R. K. Byers, Mr. T. E. B. Bagley, Mr. F. S. Towle, Mr. H. F. Dykes, Mr. M. Frampton, Mr. J. G. Lyons, and Mr. S. Roberts, all did well in minor characters. The business management was in the capable hands of Mr. Ralph H. Ward.

SPORTING NOTES.

BY SANTOI.

One of the toughest problems Epsom precents next week is the Great Metropolitan Stakes on Tuesday. There are two Cesarewitch winners in it—Warlingham and Verney—and the animals which filled the other places behind Warlingham last October. Old Verney has not been on a race-course for more than two seasons, and although he has done fairly well in his work this spring, I think many of the younger generation will beat him. Warlingham is totally unsuited for a course like Epsom. He wants a big stretch of ground to bring out his finest qualities, and that is undoubtedly why he ran so moderately at Windsor just before his Cesarewitch triumph last autumn. His best deeds have been accomplished on straight galloping courses, and even as a two-year-old he did not show to advantage until he had a straight seven furlongs. Mr. Sievier has not even put him in the Chester Cup, where, of course, the turns are more troublesome than in the Great Metropolitan at Epsom.

Goodgames, who trains Warlingham, is, however, likely to provide a highly fancied horse for the Great Metropolitan in Candytuft, and it is significant that a commission to back this horse recently came from India, where Goodgames spent the winter. You can put Candytuft well in it, too, on some of his running last year, notably when fourth to Wilfrid at Doncaster, and on his fifth in the Cesarewitch, when, of course, he was only a second-string. Wilfrid has been in physic recently, and he will not run again before the Chester Cup, a race they hope he will win. Frank Hartigan, I should say, will depend upon Queen's Loch, whose stamina has been developed since last year by the course of hurdling she had this winter. She might, indeed, follow up Accurate's success last year for Weyhill, but there is no proof yet that she can stay. Agnate was a capital stayer last autumn, but he was thoroughly exposed, and has been handicapped up to his form. Columbus seems to be a failure, after all. Of course, there are any number of odd creatures, like Codetta, who might bring about an upset, but I shall stick to the "book," and some information, and go for

CANDYTUFT

each way. The horse has been given a searching preparation, and he will just about win.

In the Great Surrey Handicap the draw is, of course, a big factor, though when Master Hopson won it he was very badly off in that respect. He is entered again, but, I fear, has seen his best day, and even with 7st. 4lb. must be negligible against some of the fliers. Hornet's Beauty will run, and will take a lot of beating, but Great Surprise is evidently not yet in form, though it should not be overlooked that on this course he established the time record for five furlongs. Still, he ran moderately at Newmarket on Thursday. The three-year-olds are well represented, as they usually are in this particular race, and one of them, Privilege, a stable companion of the erstwhile City and Suburban favourite, Tuxedo, is not a little fancied. She was pretty smart last season, and missed a race at Newbury the other day with this in view. The best handicapped animal in the race, however, is undoubtedly Garryhoe, who is a veritable smasher over five furlongs. She was terribly unlucky to lose to Minehead at Epsom in Derby week, and was always harshly handicapped afterwards. Therefore, I shall take Garryhoe to win this race.

They do not seem able to fix up a definite favourite for the City and Suburban, and so the bookmakers have compromised by offering totally inadequate prices about any particular horse that appears to hold a chance on form. Tuxedo, Jaeger, and Lorenzo have each been 8 to 1 chances in the past few days. They are all genuinely fancied, particularly Tuxedo and Jaeger, though the first-named receded a little in the betting on Friday. Halberd is a strange creature to put up at 100 to 7, though if the club reporters are to be believed he has been backed to win some money. He has not seen a racecourse, however, for more than eighteen months, and then he was running in nursery handicaps, having trained off since his great race in the Woodcote Stakes at Epsom, when, in a finish of heads, he split White Star and Lomond. Halberd is not the sort of horse the public will trouble much about.

Jaeger is a different proposition, and after seeing him gallop at Newmarket this week, it would come as no surprise if he whacked Tuxedo and everything else, for he is a vastly improved colt, and has claims to class which others lack, for was he not second to Tagalie in the Derby? Drinmore I shall be able to say more about on Wednesday. He is certainly well handicapped, and although this is a little farther than the Cambridgeshire, in which he finished third, stopping at the close, it is a much easier course.

It is reported that the National Hunt Committee will shortly re-open the Coulthwaite case in response to an urgent appeal for further investigation, and also to consider some fresh evidence. If, after the second inquiry, any doubt should exist, Coulthwaite would, of course, be given the benefit of it, and he may even be reinstated.

SELECTIONS.

At Derby to-day Highwayside will win the Chaddesden Handicap. He ran really well in top-class company at Liverpool, and was then short of a gallop or two. Ogles Grove ought to win the Highfield Selling Plate and The Top the Osmaston Plate. Hoch has a fine chance in the Derbyshire Handicap.

Monday is a blank day, but there is plenty of sport of high class at Epsom on Tuesday and Wednesday. The Nork Park Plate should fall to Nomenor. The Prince of Wales' Stakes, a three-year-old handicap, is a difficult race to tackle, but I shall chance his ability to stay the mile and go for Neville Holt, who is a stable companion of Aldigond. Tanaquil should win the Tattenham Plate.

The Streatham Amateur Operatic Society will produce "Patience" at the Streatham Hall on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, April 23, 24, 25, and 26.

A very beautiful casket and many fine wreaths of flowers were sent to the funeral of Miss Adrienne Augarde, whose body was cremated on Friday, March 21, at Chicago, Ill., U.S.A. Among them were a superb wreath and standard from the English players in Chicago, and floral tributes from the "Hindle Wakes" company, the Manchester Players, and Mr. Lewis Waller and company.

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THEATRES AND MUSIC HALLS.

INTERESTING DEBATE.

In the House of Commons on Wednesday Mr. ROBERT HARCOURT moved the following resolution: "That the attempt to maintain by means of antiquated legislation a legal distinction between a theatre and a music hall, and to differentiate between productions called stage plays and other dramatic performances, is unworkable; that the system of licensing stage plays before production in Great Britain, though not in Ireland, by means principally of the perusal of a manuscript, should be abolished; and that, as regards stage exhibitions of whatever kind or wherever given, reliance should be placed on subsequent effective control."

Mr. Harcourt said: I apologise for introducing a subject which I believe has not been debated in this House for nearly a century. But the submission I shall make is that we have neglected, and that by our neglect we have injuriously affected, an important element in our national life. Various picturesque descriptions have been applied from time to time to those who dwell in this island. Patriots have pointed out that our distinctive function is to rule the waves. Enemies have said in anger that we are a nation of shopkeepers. But, on the whole, I think the most popular of our attributes, which pleases even the most aggressive of our Philistines, is that we are the country of Shakespeare. Surely it is not too much to ask for an hour or two after an interval of a hundred years for the consideration of the "drama's laws," which have recently been investigated by an important Committee? You cannot that this subject is unworthy of the attention of Parliament, because Parliament, to my deep regret, has already given the subject its attention. That really is what all the trouble is about. Places of entertainment are regulated not by custom or by the common law, or by public opinion, or by police supervision. They are the field for definite and distinctive statutory enactment. Precisely as we have passed laws with regard to factories and refreshment houses, so we have spatchcocked the theatre and the drama into the public general Acts. The only difference in this case is that we did it nearly 200 years ago, and we have been so astounded apparently at our own ineptitude that we have refused ever since to revise our efforts. The Acts are extremely old, but they are not necessarily bad because they are old. I know many people who have a kind word even for Magna Charta, but the Home Secretary does not regulate our biplanes and Zeppelins by enactments originally designed for sedan chairs, and I shall contend that the stage has outgrown its legislature.

There is a separate law for the theatre and a separate law for the music hall. Both laws are equally out of date, though for different reasons. For the purpose of clearness I am afraid I must ask the House to bear with me while I consider them for a moment or two separately. First of all, the case of music halls. At the time the Committee sat in 1909 music halls were regulated almost exclusively by an Act passed in 1751 for the purpose of dealing with disorderly houses. There are, as we all know, music halls and music halls; but, after all, places of entertainment visited by thousands of respectable citizens, many of which have presented works of high artistic merit, such as those of Bernhardt, Réjane, Shaw, Leoncavallo, and others, which have been performed at music halls, are not really the proper subject-matter for the provisions of an Act no doubt usefully designed at the time that the Act was passed for the conduct of the tavern and for the suppression of the brothel. It is merely a question of date. Those places which were the subject-matter of this old Act are not the places which are regulated under those provisions in default of better provisions at the present time. The provisions, so far as they go, are sensible enough, and set up a perfect system of control which anyone can understand, and I shall describe them a little in detail. The local authority licences the places of entertainment once a year. If it does not like the way in which these places have been conducted, the licences can be withdrawn. Of course, in practice it does not come to that. A large London or provincial music hall is an immensely valuable property, and it would be disastrous to the proprietor if the licence were lost. On the other hand, the music hall is also a very valuable milch cow for the local authority. Large rates are levied upon it, and the local authority certainly does not desire to see it stand empty. There is therefore a mutual check. The proprietor does not defy the local authority for fear of his licence. The local authority does not subject the music hall to factious persecution out of regard for the ratepayers. I doubt if any dispute has ever been pushed to the point of withdrawing a licence. What happens is this: the manager as a rule does not present objectionable performances, but, if he does, an officer of the local authority makes a remonstrance. The manager, knowing that he holds his licence at the pleasure of those who are advising him, either withdraws or modifies his performance. That is a practical system which has worked, by common consent, remarkably well.

Let the House observe that this is a licensing of buildings, but it is not a specific licensing of individual performances in those buildings. The thousands of songs, for instance, which are sung in hundreds of music halls are not previously submitted in manuscript to any outside body. There is nothing, I believe, to prevent the London County Council from requiring an examination of songs previous to the production, but in point of fact they do not do so. Universal compulsory censorship or licensing of performances in music halls does not form a part of the Act of 1751. Interference takes place as and when required if anything seems to be amiss. Why, then, is the Act of 1751 insufficient? It is insufficient because the licence granted under it is too limited in scope. It does not cover the performances which actually take place. The music hall licence must be one confined to music and dancing. It was intended to rule out in these buildings the performance of what used to be called the legitimate drama. Stage plays, from "Hamlet" to the one-act farce, are forbidden territory to the tavern and its successor the music hall. Legislation designed originally to protect the vested interests of the two patent theatres continues in force, and at the time the Committee sat in 1909 every single stage play given in a music hall was a definite legal offence, not because they were open to any objection—they were frequently by far the best part of the performance—but simply because the performance of any entertainment not coming under the head of music and dancing was outside the intention of the licence.

The opera, "Samson and Delila," was vetoed for years, and then it was allowed suddenly and without explanation. The same thing applies to "Salome." "Everyman," containing the character of the Deity, was performed. "The Miracle," containing the character of the Virgin, was seen by tens of thousands of people. On the other hand, a play called "Bethlehem," by Mr. Housman, was refused. It is sheer chaos. These rules are altered from day to day. No one knows where they are. The unfortunate author is never able to know what he will be able to produce. There is a rule against living persons being represented on the stage. It is notoriously and habitually broken. You cannot arrive at a right conclusion by simply reading the manuscript. No obligation rests on the Lord Chamberlain to give any reason for vetoing the play. He can refuse to reconsider his decision or that of his predecessor. His clerk, the Examiner, will not, unless he likes, re-submit the play. In one case where a manager wrote in to ask for a play to be reconsidered, the Examiner would not even return an answer in the form in which it would have been returned by a second division clerk. He merely returned the letter endorsed in one corner, "Surely you are aware that *I* have already refused to license this play," thus claiming for the Examiner of Plays the power of veto, which, we were told by no less important and competent a witness than the Speaker of the House of Commons, was a power which belonged to the Lord Chamberlain alone.

That play was "Mrs. Warren's Profession," by Bernard Shaw. It happens to have been produced within the last week—last Thursday—in Glasgow. I was myself present at a performance of it in London. How comes it that an unlicensed play can be presented? It is done by a league or society, a frankly bogus club, which will not take money at the door, but which will admit anyone to membership on payment of 6d., in addition to the price of a seat. And so the working of our marvellous legislation is, firstly, the Lord Chamberlain's veto, and, secondly, the manager gives what is humorously called a private performance, which apparently protects him from public interference.

If you are going to protect the censorship of the Lord Chamberlain you will really have to re-establish a censorship over the Press, and if they are going to defend this particular proscription I can only recommend the Treasury Bench to undertake at once the prosecution of the Lord Provost of the City of Glasgow for his impudent evasion of the law.

A modern workable Statute should provide a single uniform licence for theatres and music halls subject to an effective control of actual performances. There should be no silly compulsion to submit manuscripts, and there should be no power of veto until there has been an actual public production.

Mr. MARK SYKES: I beg to second the motion. After the very admirable review, both legal and historical, not only admirable, but brief and detailed, of the hon. member, there is very little for further speakers to do than to back the case which has been put. The only reason I rise is that perhaps it may be useful for one who takes an entirely different political view of history to show that it is possible for parallel lines to cross occasionally from one point to another, and that in fact, that it is quite possible for anybody, no matter how conservative they may be in their ideas, no matter how reactionary they may be in their ideas, to support this resolution, because personally, I shall be very jealous of interfering with any formality, or any traditional course of conduct that in any way gives people a reminiscence of history, or in any way brings back to people's minds old manners and old customs, or in any way tends to link up the present and the past. Any change with regard to the King's Maundy or the Bluecoat boys' dress or the attire of His Majesty's judges, I should be prepared to resist, not only with passion but, I am sure the House will believe, with sincerity. But in this particular change which is advocated there is no thing of beauty that is threatened, there is no thing of any particular meaning that is threatened, and there is not even a moderate sinecure going to be abolished. The only tradition of which it can possibly remind people is a tradition with which every Tory-minded person would be very glad to do away, that is, the tradition of weak tyranny and an old tradition of weak hypocrisy. The arguments fall into two very distinct heads—there is the case of the clashing of the playhouse and the music hall, and the case of the Censor. I will take the playhouse versus the music hall question first. If a distinction is made between a legitimate dramatic play and another kind of dramatic entertainment fit to be produced in the music hall, I submit to the House that must be bad for the art of play writing itself, because it introduces a new convention.

Conventions may have some justification when they are the result of some old artistic formula for which people have some adequate reason, such as the reason for the conventions in the Chinese play, or for the soliloquy or for the chorus, but if there is introduced an entirely new convention which has nothing to do with the play or the writing of plays I submit they will have a bad effect on the art of play-writing in this country. The convention introduced here is a most absurd one. It is that no matter what dramatic entertainment is going to be performed in the music hall it must be preceded by six other items in the programme. I think this absurd situation was never intended to arise when the legislation which has produced this situation became law.

With regard to the Censor, that perhaps is a matter of a wholly different set of considerations. I know there is a body of opinion in this country which sympathises with the existence of a Censor, and I am not ashamed to admit that I once formed part of that body, but, at the same time, I was very surprised, when I did write a play, to find that these draconic regulations which I formerly admired fell with crushing weight upon my own head. It happened that I wrote a play, and, to my astonishment, it was refused the necessary imprimatur, and subsequently—this is the astonishing part—the same play, with all the things that were objected to left in it, was acted at a school before 100 boys, their sisters and parents, and twenty-five clergymen.

In censoring plays there is absolutely no basis that I can see at all. If one is attempting to stop blasphemy or sedition or riot or indecency, there are laws to prevent that all along the line, but the Censor is being asked to prevent these crimes being committed by reading a typewritten copy of the play, with perhaps none of the real stage directions in it at all. There is one historic instance which was given me by the late Professor J. W. Clark, which has a great bearing upon this particular case. When the play of "Robert Macaire" was rewritten, I think in 1834, by Le Maitre, it was produced in Paris, and the actor who took the part thought the play was doomed to hopeless failure. He decided at the last minute to take an entirely different reading of the main character. That is one side of the story. The other was that Louis Philippe at that time had the most rigid censorship of anything published in the Press or on the stage that had to do with politics. The actor took the part contrary to the author's meaning, and the audience, contrary to the actor's meaning, thought the part was a caricature of the King, and Louis Philippe was known as Robert Macaire from that time forth.

If a French Palais Royale farce is translated into English, the discarded mistress is always spoken of as an actress. Everyone knows what is meant. The result is identically the same. In the same way you may speak of politicians on the stage apparently if you wear an outrageous wig and a red nose, but you must not treat politics seriously. Another very serious point of view is that this sham standard of immorality that we have now on the stage is that it is a matter of notoriety that adultery may be treated as a joke, but not as a crime on the stage.

With regard to religious questions, the anomalies are almost incredible. I believe that Father Benson wrote a play, and that it was a beautiful and harmless little thing which could not have given offence to anyone. At the time that play was censored I was at His Majesty's Theatre, and saw interpolated into a performance of "Richard II." the administration of the Last Sacrament to John o'Gaunt. There was nothing in the performance that any Doctor of Divinity had any right to object to. The Censor did not know that it was going on. He only knew that "Richard II." was being acted at that time. When we come to Shakespeare, is that great dramatic author to be censored, and are we going to make ourselves ridiculous in the eyes of the whole world? If you censor his plays, you must leave out his clowns, his bawds, and procurers. If you do not censor Shakespeare, you must allow these characters to speak their words. Is this House going to allow it? If these things are to be said, is Bernard Shaw's cowboy to be put to silence for saying something that would hardly shock anybody, coming from such a man, under such circumstances, in such a situation? Again, there is no doubt that the whole of this system of censoring plays has produced a system in England which is a kind of secret indecency—indecency by implication and by silence; and innuendo has been brought absolutely to a fine art. Pernicious writers exercise their whole ingenuity to dodge the Censor, and see how far they can go to get past him, and then see how much they can put in, while, on the other hand, honest writers are harassed at every step, and wonder whether some catch phrase does not destroy the labour of months and cause great monetary sacrifice as well. So far as the music hall argument is concerned, I think that to keep the two forms of entertainment divided is a nuisance for which there is no excuse whatever. So far as the Censor is concerned, I submit that his existence now as a bulwark against false taste is an absurd and arbitrary convention, and prevents the law and public opinion from destroying those evil things which they loathe.

The UNDER-SECRETARY of STATE for the HOME DEPARTMENT (Mr. Ellis Griffith): There are two branches of this resolution. The first is the separation of the theatre on the one side from the music hall on the other; and the second is with respect to what shall be the control exercised over productions either in the theatre or the music hall. With regard to the former subject, it turns out that so far back as 1842 the dramatic authors of that time were very anxious to emphasise this separation between the theatre on the one hand and the music hall on the other. But one must be perfectly frank, and say that there has been a great change in the music hall since that time. The two institutions have approximated one to the other, and, although my hon. friend talks of antiquated legislation, I would remind him that it is only Early Victorian, after all, and I should not have thought that he would have called anything antiquated which was post-Plantagenet. I know that it is the practice to speak rather discouragingly of the managers who get their thousands of pounds for these productions, but why should not the man who invests his capital in a production go to some authority before he incurs all this expenditure, and say, "Do you mind reading this and telling me whether it is fit for performance or not?" Does not the hon. member think that this is a reasonable safeguard? The control can either come beforehand or afterwards—before the play is produced, or after it is produced. I should have thought that it would save both time and money to come beforehand. If the Lord Chamberlain said to the manager and author, "You go away; I do not want to see you before you spend thousands of pounds and risk your capital. I will send somebody to see whether your play is right or wrong, and in the meantime, you had better go and spend your money"—that might recommend itself to brother barristers of mine, but it does not recommend itself to the capitalist, who has to spend his money on the production of the play. Theatrical managers, owners of theatres, and actors in the main are for the censorship. A very brilliant body of authors and playwrights are against it. There is such diversity of opinion among experts that it is very difficult as yet in the present situation to know on what lines you could legislate. The theatrical profession of this country whose capital and labour are involved in this profession are against the abolition of the censorship. It is only a minority of authors and playwrights who very vehemently ask for that abolition. We should be chary before we commit ourselves to a proposal of this kind. I am informed that a great many even of the authors would prefer the compulsory censorship, plus a court of arbitration, rather than the proposals of the Joint Committee.

Mr. HARCOURT: No.

Mr. ELLIS GRIFFITH: My hon. friend will find it in "The Era," a paper with which he is much more acquainted than I am, and I have no doubt he will recognise it as an authority more than I do—except on this occasion. With these divided counsels prevailing, and when we know that the theatrical profession, which are mainly interested, are so severely divided on this point, and when we remember—and I think this is a cardinal point—there is a very languid public in face of this proposal, I do not think the House will be surprised to know that we are not in a position now here to legislate on a question upon which there is really so much division of opinion. In order to obtain guidance, the Government is anxious to listen to this debate and to leave the decision to the unfettered discretion of the House, and if, as a result of this debate or otherwise, any proposals are brought forward which will really obtain the substantial consent of the theatrical profession or of the public generally, they will be very glad to consider those proposals carefully and sympathetically, and, when opportunity occurs, to found legislation upon any such proposals as will have regard to the interests of the community generally.

Mr. FRANCIS NEILSON, in an eloquent speech, referred to the instances of "Monna Vanna" and other prohibited plays.

Mr. STEPHEN GWYNN said: I live in a country where there is no Censor. We, in Ireland, get on without any. The only thing that does happen in Ireland is that sometimes a play that has been licensed by the Censor here, and that has been passed by the public, comes to Ireland where there is no Censor, and it finds itself hissed off the stage. A play before it can be played for a licence has got to have a theatre found for it. I would like the House to consider for a moment how that affects the question of a play, which up to the present time has been tabooed like Mr. Housman's "Bethlehem," which was tabooed simply because it dealt with a scriptural subject. I think it is quite clear that for that class of play there is a public demand. Take, for instance, the play "Eagerheart," produced some six or eight years ago. I understand that that play has been given at least 100 representations, and has been played to something like 100,000 persons. That passed by a mere fluke. No human being could explain why "Eagerheart" was licensed and "Bethlehem" was prohibited. Then it was proposed to produce another play at the University of London, but the university was not going for a second time to expose itself to the threats of prosecution, and what was the result? The only place in London where you could produce a scriptural subject under the patronage of the Archbishop of Canterbury was the National Sporting Club. Even at the National Sporting Club we were again threatened with prosecution because of some technical breach of the law. Plays which could shock nobody, shock the Censor, because they make him stop and think.

Sir JOHN SPEAR: I firmly believe that the abolition of the Censorship would be offensive to the taste of many people, and would be a menace to the morality of a large number. I am fully aware that if the hon. gentleman who moved the resolution and my hon. friend below me thought that their proposal would have such an effect they would not ask the House to adopt it; but even the hon. member for Montrose has admitted that there is considerable danger attached to the production of plays, but he has suggested that the remedy should be in suppression after evil had been manifested. We who support the Censorship believe that it would be better to prevent that outrage on good feeling and morality from being produced. In other words, my action is dictated by the principle that prevention is better than cure. The one object of Censorship should be to protect people from the influence of the production of immoral plays, and on the whole I think it has operated very beneficially in promoting that object. The hon. member for Montrose said that free subjects demand liberty. To follow out that principle to its full extent would be an argument against all laws for the protection of the subject which we are constantly putting into effect. What are our sanitary laws for? To prevent disease. Does anyone believe that by the promotion of sanitary laws we are guilty of an unreasonable interference with the liberty of the subject? The object and purport of the Censor is to prevent immoral plays being placed before the public. Quite recently we were engaged—successfully, I am glad to say—in dealing with the white slave traffic. The object in that case was prevention rather than cure; and on the same principle I hope the House will hesitate before taking the retrograde step of doing away with this reasonable protection to prevent immorality and the production of plays offensive to the taste of the people. I shall vote against this resolution because I am convinced it would be strongly resented by the majority of the people of this country. [Hon. Members: "No."] That is a matter of opinion. I think the Under-Secretary was quite right in pointing to the fact that there has been no strong agitation in favour of the alteration which has been proposed to-night, and I therefore strongly protest against it. I believe the change suggested would be offensive to the taste of a large number of the people of this country, and it would menace morality, more especially of the younger classes who would come under the baneful influence of some of the plays that would be produced. There are many pure-minded persons who attend the theatre who would resent an immoral play, but, on the other hand, we know there are a large number who would glory in the immorality of the play. You cannot in every case trust to the judgment of the theatre-goer as to the desirability of plays being produced or not. The hon. member for Montrose says his remedy is to suppress plays after they have been proved to be objectionable, and even there he admits the presence of a great danger. Again, in this case, prevention is better than cure, and it is better to have a Censorship and prevent the public being injured by the production of immoral and indecent plays.

Mr. HAROLD SMITH: I am afraid on the present occasion I find myself in opposition to my hon. friend the member for Tavistock. I rise to support the resolution before the House. I speak on this subject with some little practical experience, and certainly with considerable enthusiasm for the great profession of the stage. I could not help thinking, when I heard my hon. friend who has just sat down say that the presence of the Censor will save the people from offence, he is entirely ignoring the force of the fact that the public opinion of the British people has never in the long history of our country approved of immoral or degarding performances on the public stage. I attach enormous weight to the opinion of the British public. I attach still greater weight to the great and overwhelming safeguard which exists in the fact that those licensed houses have annually to apply for a licence for the performance of stage plays, and that if a manager allows indecent or immoral or degraded plays to be produced on his stage the magistrates in whom we have placed, and I think rightly placed, the power, may withhold the licence on the ground that the house has not been properly conducted, just as we to-day withhold a licence for a public house if those in authority find that the house is not to the public advantage. The Under-Secretary told us that this question was not so easy as it appeared, but what he really meant was that the answer to the resolution was not so easy as it appeared. I must confess that while much impressed with his ingenuity, I thought he spoke on very inadequate instructions and very little knowledge of his case. He drew a graphic and, I think, an utterly ridiculous picture of what would happen if the position of the Censorship was ended. He said, "You would send your policemen into the theatre with their pocket-books ready to make shorthand notes of the play which was being acted, and if they thought there was a case against the management of the theatre on the ground that the play was indecent, then they would go and report to that effect." What nonsense! I ventured to interrupt the hon. gentleman and to ask him, "Do you do that to-day in music halls?" Then the hon. gentleman gave us a wonderful insight into the lack of knowledge with which he came to the House, because his answer was, "We do not do it in music halls, because stage plays which are produced in music halls have to pass the Censor." My only answer to that is, "It is not true." The hon. gentleman who speaks for the Government to-night really does not know his case. He is entirely ignorant of the fact that I can go with my manuscript to-morrow to a music hall manager, and he can produce it without first submitting it to the Lord Chamberlain for approval. Why should there be that distinction? It is a distinction to which attention is drawn in the resolution before the House, because the hon. member's motion protests against the distinction which is made between the theatre and the music hall.

The POSTMASTER-GENERAL (Mr. Herbert Samuel): The hon. member is mistaken.

Mr. H. SMITH: The right hon. gentleman has consulted officials, but I can assure him that it is a fact that plays which the Censor never sees are produced in music halls day after day.

Mr. HERBERT SAMUEL: Not in London.

Mr. H. SMITH: The jurisdiction of the Lord Chamberlain extends all over England as regards the ordinary stage play, and, if I understand the right hon. gentleman rightly, it does not extend beyond London as regards a music hall. If that is so, surely my argument is just as logical, and surely the answer of the Under-Secretary is just as illogical. If that is so—and with great respect to the right hon. gentleman's advisers I am still inclined to doubt it—why, in the name of common sense, if I write a stage play, should I have to take it to the Censor to be approved before I can produce it in Liverpool, whereas if I write a play for production in a music hall in Liverpool I have no need to submit it to the Censor at all? That is the case which the right hon. gentleman, after consulting with his colleagues, puts to the House, and if he does the House the honour of summing up this debate I ask him to justify that anachronism. The Under-Secretary also refrained from answering another point in the amendment which calls attention to the distinction which is made between Ireland and England. I ask a representative of the Government to tell us on what logical basis it can be said a playwright who produces a play in an English theatre must get it passed by the Censor before it can be played, while a playwright who writes for an Irish theatre can say, "We do not care a snap of the finger whether the Censor approves the play or not." These are questions which surely those in authority must answer before they ask the House to follow them into the Division Lobby. It is surely amazing that the hon. member who spoke for the Government carefully avoided dealing with these two vital points to which the resolution calls attention.

The hon. gentleman has told us that the theatrical profession, as a whole, is against the proposals in this amendment. He cited the evidence of one distinguished actor. I do not consider that in any way conclusive, because that distinguished actor is also a manager, and every manager is determined to do everything he can to cling to the protection which the Government, under our present system, gives to him. I do not value the opinion of the manager at all. He is in an entirely false position. He can produce a play and introduce into it any gags or any business, however indecent—perhaps I am putting it too high when I say however indecent, but business and gags certainly suggestive and sometimes indecent—and he knows he is safeguarded in practice against prosecution and against risk to his licence, because he has the protection which the Censor has given him in passing his play. I must, therefore, under these circumstances, attach very little weight to the opinion of theatrical managers. I agree that they are in clover, and I ask the House to attach little importance to those who are protected by this present system, and rather to apply its mind to the hardships of the author who has spent months, and even years, in producing a play which, when it has been produced, has secured the approval of literary people and acknowledged experts, but which, nevertheless, has been banned by the Censor because of some sentence or some part which he disapproves. The Censor will disapprove a play, if I write one, in which I make the Under-Secretary the principal figure, and with the aid of the perruquier and the make-up, produce, as near as possible, the classical features of the hon. gentleman on the stage at Drury Lane. The Censor will stop such a play, but I can go to the Empire and produce a stage play in which the hon. member will perform all sorts of antics entirely foreign to him perhaps, nevertheless, I can produce him in a manner which would be infinitely more offensive to him and to his friends. The Censor says it is not desirable to put prominent public persons on to the stage, but it can be done in the music halls without interference from the Censor, or without giving offence to anybody, because the British public have never approved of offensive representations of their public men in stage plays. Another example occurs to me. I remember a play, written not very long ago, in which the principal characters were George IV. and Queen Caroline. I cannot remember the name of the author or the name of the play.

Mr. HARCOURT: "Pains and Penalties."

Mr. H. SMITH: I am obliged to the hon. member. I remember that he called attention to the matter at the time by a question in this House. That play was refused. I have not read it, but I understand it was a play with considerable good qualities in it. It was refused on the ground that it might give offence to Royalty now living. You can pick up your newspapers of to-day and find in them articles quoted from newspapers of 100 years ago, upon which there is no censorship, and in which you will find things infinitely more repugnant to living Royalty than you would find in any stage play refused by the Censor. Our present system is indefensible. I am not criticising the findings of the "Council of Five," I am not asking whether they read the play which the majority of them refuse, I am not questioning whether the methods whereby our present system is carried out are right or wrong—I say the whole principle is wrong. It is wrong and indefensible that you should differentiate as you do between the music hall and the theatre, that you should allow a person to write a book which you do not censor until it is in print and finished, and that you should say to the man who writes a play, "You shall not produce it until we approve of it." I believe that if we abolish this ridiculous censorship on stage plays we shall be in an infinitely stronger position, and that we shall encourage playwrights. You would encourage playwrights to write their very best, regardless of the fact that there is a Censor with a blue pencil in his hand who might make many alterations in an author's play. You would place the responsibility upon the owner of the theatre who produces the play, who has to apply for his licence every year before he can produce a play, and I believe that with that great safeguard in itself, together with the, perhaps, still greater safeguard which public opinion has ever given us in this country, you will find that the proposals in this Resolution, if carried out, will be a great advance and give greater liberty and greater justice to all authors. I believe it will tend to elevate the whole atmosphere of stage plays, whether in the theatre or the music hall. Our present system is an anachronism; it was worn out many years ago. I am glad the hon. member opposite (Mr. Robert Harcourt) and my hon. friend (Mr. Mark Sykes) have raised this question. I am glad the Government have advanced so far that they are prepared to leave it to the unfettered judgment of the House, and I ask every member of the House who has heard this debate to support this motion merely as a protest against the present ridiculous system, and as evidence of the fact that it is time we took some steps to fall into line with other great civilised countries.

Mr. WALTER REA, Mr. WALTER GUINNESS, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE also spoke.

MOTOR NOTES.

BY "COUNTRYMAN."

Wheels.

Apropos of the growing interest of motor truck builders in the possibilities of the steel wheel, it is noteworthy of observation that the wooden artillery type that it is sought to replace is practically the only heritage of animal traction remaining practically unaltered in present-day automobile construction, and likewise that its endurance through all the years has been as a reward of merit rather than because of neglect. As a matter of historical fact, the wedge-spoke type of artillery wheel is often attributed to Walter Hancock, whose steam coaches were in active service in England between 1828 and 1839.

As a definite shock to those who still seek to claim novelty and the essence of "invention" in spring wheels, the following quotation from the "Mechanics' Magazine," of January, 1834, may be offered:—"The spokes of the wheels are so constructed as to operate like springs to the whole machine—that is, to give and take, according to the inequalities of the road." The reference is to Church's three-wheeled coach, which was built in 1833. If, after ninety years or more of development, a successful substitute for the traditional wooden wheel becomes at length available, it will be for no better reason than that superior metallurgical processes have rendered the supersession of wood not only possible, but advantageous. The structure and mechanics of the wheel are an inheritance of the earliest philosophers, from which there is no possible reason or means of escape.

Oiling the Way.

If the oil refiners are really anxious to be relieved of the pressure of an insistent demand for the lighter hydro-carbon products that they can barely fulfil, as they seem desirous of having it understood, there is one very obvious method of bringing about what they term the logical conclusion of the fuel situation. In fact, the question has frequently been asked, "Why do not the oil people develop and market a paraffin carburetter?"

Such action would be directly in line with the extensive manufacture of paraffin lamps, with the sale of such lamps to the "Heathen Chinee" at prices far lower than those at which practically the same goods are obtainable in this country, with the methods employed in marketing other petroleum by-products. For paraffin has become in effect a by-product of petrol—when prices are compared, on the gallon basis at all events.

Yet, despite the rumours of a year or so ago that the Standard Oil Co. was about to market a device of this description—rumours that were promptly denied, by the way—it remains to be demonstrated that any oil refiner has ever made serious efforts to solve the problem that they all so earnestly and unanimously recommend to the motor car manufacturer for solution. In fact, instances are known where inventors of devices that were properly entitled to consideration in this regard, after making strenuous and often highly influential attempts to secure at the very least the oil men's endorsement of their products, have been flatly turned down. The fact of the matter is that, despite its remote location, the Chinese market is easier of exploitation.

Straight-Side Tyres.

Although over-much stress has not been laid upon it, it is a noteworthy fact that the advent and introduction of the quick detachable type of rim has practically wiped out the principal objection that will hold against the straight-sided type of tyre, namely, the difficulty of applying it. With the removable flange, the casing may be slid over the base of the rim without difficulty, and with none of the strenuous efforts that must be combined with the "knack" of experience in prying the wire-enforced edges over the flange of a one-piece rim. By the same token the advent of the demountable rim has further removed the objectionable feature of a wire-edged casing, by reducing the number of replacements that must be made on the road and substituting therefor the far simpler replacement of the rim with its inflated tyre.

For these reasons it would be not surprising if the use of the straightsided type were to increase very rapidly once the public grasped the idea of its advantages. Besides being a more attractive product from the tyre manufacturer's point of view, it is unquestionably more durable, in that severe working of the side walls, such as may arise when the tube is improperly inflated, is not localised, as it is above the bead of the clincher type of casing.

All of which is pertinent to consider in view of the suggestion that the universal type of rim is no longer a necessity, but, on the contrary, that it burdens the car with about ten pounds of practically needless weight, just at the rims of the wheels, where it is extremely important that weight be economised. If the universal feature is to be sacrificed, the rivalry between the clincher and straight-sided types once more comes to the front, and it becomes a matter of some importance to the user to determine when selecting his car which type he prefers.

"Send It!"

A few years ago the department stores regarded the motor car with a hopeful eye, and saw a material lightening of the labours of their delivery systems. The hope was not alone in the use of motor trucks for making delivery, but on the taking home of packages by the purchasers in their own motor cars. In the days of the landau, the brougham, and the private cab, "James" frequently accompanied his mistress on her shopping, to gather up the bundles and take them to the carriage; or the store would send a boy with her to the carriage. The stores reasoned that the motor car would carry more, and make possible more trips, and so they would sell more and have less to deliver.

Alas! it was not so to be. A recent trip to the traffic men or delivery managers of the department stores revealed the fact that, instead of lightening the labours of the delivery department, the private motor car has served to increase them. The cars brought more shoppers, and less of those who took their bundles home than was the case when they used horses.

The solution to the puzzle is probably a psychologic one. The motor car is, as used by the woman shopper in the large city, pre-eminently a luxury. It lightens the labour and lessens the time of a shopping trip. A clutter of packages in a limousine is incongruous and in the way. The car instills in its owner higher habits of luxury and convenience, and so she unconsciously feels that her worry over her purchases ends when she has given the order, and does not extend to getting them home.

Motor trucks, however, have helped department store delivery work far more than the use of pleasure cars by shoppers has hurt it, and so the motor car triumphs as usual.

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A "UNIQUE ENTERTAINMENT."

Rag-time and mental telepathy figured among one-act plays and other forms of amusement, in what was described as "a unique entertainment," given in aid of a charity at the Æolian Hall, under the direction of Miss Edith Parker and Mr. Sydney B. Harcourt, on Saturday evening. Of the two plays presented, the first was by far the better. It was a farcical episode, in one act, by H. G. Willis, entitled

"AFTER GOOD-NIGHT."

Mrs. Runnimeade ....Mrs. Waldemar Leverton
Nina Runnimeade ....Miss Sybil Westmacott
Rev. George Weyland ..Mr. Reginald Master
Dr. Frank Hudson .....Mr. Ewart Scott
Susan .....Miss Isabel Christison
Marjorie Thorn .....Miss Edith Parker

Despite its title, the little piece does not boast a bedroom scene. It is the absence of one that involves the series of amusing complications which arise on board of Mrs. Runnimeade's houseboat at Snorling-on-Thames. The trouble is caused by the lady of the houseboat reading without her spectacles, and finding what she considers to be the announcement of the marriage of a curate, who is engaged to her daughter, with another young lady of her acquaintance. Both are the guests of the short-sighted lady for the week-end, and, in the belief that the happy couple are desiring to keep their wedding secret, she maliciously gives them the same cabin, with dire results to the curate, who surrenders his berth to the lady, and is left the choice of the deck, the small boat, or the water. The farce was quite well represented. Miss Edith Parker gave distinction to the part of the supposed bride, acting with agreeable animation, and using her fine speaking voice with every effect. Mr. Reginald Master was a typical curate, giving some droll lines just the right intonation; and Miss Sybil Westmacott prettily affected the just indignation of the apparently jilted sweetheart. The visually deficient Mrs. Runnimeade was satisfactorily acted by Mrs. Waldemar-Leverton; and Mr. Ewart Scott, as the supposed wife's real lover, was bright and breezy.

The other play was an American farce, by S. V. Schell, entitled

"FIND THE MAN."

Beatrice Southern .....Miss Isabel Christison
Melinda Snowflake ..Mrs. Waldemar-Leverton
Mr. Cheek .....Mr. E. Thornley-Dodge
Mr. Jones .....Mr. Edwards
Clayton Lovel .....Mr. Ewart Scott

The idea of the above little play is good, but its humour is very poor. Much more might have been made out of the dilemma of a young girl in straitened circumstances, who is belatedly informed that her father has died and left her a fortune on condition that she is married by the time she is twenty-one. The news only reaches her on her twenty-first birthday, and the endeavours of the young lady, assisted by a devoted black servant, to obtain a husband in time, form the basis of the piece. Miss Isabel Christison faithfully reflected the agitation of the young lady in search of a husband, and Mrs. Waldemar Leverton, realistically made-up, was all that could be desired as the quaint old nurse. Mr. Ewart Scott represented a long-lost lover as faithfully as the exigencies of the part allowed him, and Mr. E. Thornley-Dodge was thoroughly effective as a "pushing" portrait seller.

The diversified items of the programme were much enjoyed. The thought-reading séance of Mr. Alfred Capper won renewed laurels for that renowned artiste, who aroused the enthusiasm of the audience by his wonderful mental exploits. Mr. Thornley-Dodge's sketches in black-and-white were highly commended; and Mr. Charles Corner gave a selection from his répertoire which proved very diverting. Miss Helen May, a pupil of Mme. Pavlova, did her distinguished teacher credit in several dances, which revealed considerable powers of expression and a keen sense of the poetry of motion. Miss Dorothy Varick, at the piano; the Glad Raggers, in a characteristic selection; and Miss Wynne Runting, vocalist, completed the programme.

The Bury St. Edmunds Amateur Operatic Society scored a triumph with their performance of "San Toy," the box-office returns for the week breaking the record. Mr. James Mason cleverly portrayed the part of Li, his play of expression being particularly good; Mr. H. I. Jarman looked and sang well as Bobbie Preston; excellent representations of the Emperor, Fo Hop, and Yen How coming from Mr. A. Hooper, Mr. C. E. Clarke, and Major E. Jackson. Mr. F. W. Attree's Sir Bingo Preston was a clever study; and Captain Kendle did well as Harvey Tucker. Of the ladies, Mrs. Donald Hunter was particularly good in her impersonation of Dudley; Miss Mildred Allingham sang and acted nicely in the title-rôle; Poppy was smartly taken by Mrs. Christopherson; Miss Grace Hedges making a fascinating Yung Shi; a dashing exponent of Ko Fau was found in Miss Iris Roberts, Miss Lilla Tinkler, as première danseuse, taking the audience by storm with her exquisite pas seul in Act II. The stage-manager, Mr. W. Simms-Bull, and the musical-director, Mr. E. Percy Hallam, deserve warm congratulation on the splendid show they turned out, praise being likewise due to the officials, especially the business-manager, Mr. J. H. Crombie.

A New Wig-Cleaner.—What is "Securitine"? one asks. "Securitine" is a non-inflammable fluid of the nature of petrol. It is a special preparation for cleansing the hair and wigs. It leaves the hair clean and glossy without taking out the wave or curl. Being absolutely non-inflammable, "Securitine" may be used safely in front of an open fire or naked light, and therefore claims its permanent place in every home. "Securitine" possesses all the properties of petrol, yet it has none of the drawbacks which make petrol so dangerous to handle, on account of its inflammable and explosive character. Its value for cleaning theatrical wigs is obvious.

THEATRICAL RENOVATION.

When a West-End theatre is closed for renovation it is invariably found that the work is in the capable hands of The Chemical Cleaning and Dyeing Co. This firm are the pioneers of theatrical cleaning, and, besides doing a continual huge business in the cleaning of costumes worn on the stage, they have long specialised in the renovation of theatre furnishings. Tableau curtains, box draperies, upholstered seats, carpets, druggets, &c., can all be handled by them, and cleaned or dyed according to requirements. They have undertaken many large contracts, notably the renovation some time ago of the Covent Garden and Drury Lane Theatres, and a few mouths ago they had the entire contract for the refurnishing of the Prince of Wales and Court Theatres. There is, indeed, not now any theatre in the West End of London which has not in recent years been overhauled by the Chemical Cleaning and Dyeing Co. Last year they were favoured with the contract for the cleaning of draperies in the Palace Theatre for the Royal Command Performance, and recently they have had similar contracts for the Holborn Empire and Coliseum, and they are now engaged in the cleaning of the draperies for Daly's Theatre. As an indication of the speed with which the work is done, on many occasions the furnishings in the theatre have been taken down, cleaned, and replaced in the interval between Saturday evening and the rising of the curtain on the following Monday. All this means a magnificent organisation, and the business is under the control of Mr. A. W. Fisher, who has for many years been associated with the cleaning and dyeing business, and who is thoroughly au fait with all the requirements of the theatrical profession. The business is the largest of its kind in the world, and following the reorganisation made two years ago by Mr. Fisher, very great strides have been made in its scope and prosperity.

Amongst the largest of the firms devoted to the cleaning and dyeing of theatre draperies, costumes, &c., is the old-established one of Lush and Cook, Ltd., 29, Charing Cross-road, London, W.C. Messrs. Lush and Cook have for years made a speciality of the chemical cleaning process as applied to the theatrical profession. It is, of course, imperative that articles of costume in actual use upon the stage should be cleaned in the shortest possible time, and by this firm's unique system all goods collected from the theatre in the morning are cleaned and returned in good time for the evening performance, and even in time for a matinée if necessary, all goods being treated by their scientific chemical cleaning process. Nothing is too elaborate or valuable to be restored to its original pristine beauty, whilst especially frail articles are treated only by the most efficient hand labour. Mr. John Bell is the company's experienced theatrical department manager, and his indefatigable energy and the excellence of the firm's work have attracted to their enormous clientele most of the West End managers, including Messrs. Arthur Collins, Charles Frohman, Cyril Maude, Fred Terry, Arthur Bourchier, Fredk. Harrison, Oscar Asche, and others of equal eminence.

Established as long ago as 1800, Hodgkins, Ltd., specialists in chemical cleaning and dyeing, continue to command that success which a firm of their repute deserves. Their West-End branch at 10, Dean-street, Oxford-street, is under the management of Mr. T. Harris, so well known in the profession. The London works are equipped with all the best and latest machinery, and skilled workmen only are employed. Thus the firm can guarantee high-class work and prompt despatch with moderate prices.

H. Lazarus and Son, Ltd., theatrical upholsterers, &c., 21, Great Eastern-street, E.C., have a special cheap line in their "A1" tip-up chairs, polished backs and upholstered velvet, price 8s. 11d. The quality is first-class. Alfresco seats and chairs may be secured for the absurdly low price of 24s. a dozen. Lists of leading lines for theatres, music halls, and picture palaces may be had on application, and all the goods supplied by this enterprising firm may be thoroughly relied on.

Messrs. Beck and Windibank, Ltd. (successors to A. R. Dean, Ltd.), have made a hit in theatreland with their "Beckwin" range of theatre chairs, which combine luxury with economy. They also stock tableau curtains and draperies of special designs, and carpets, floor coverings, and brass work of every description.

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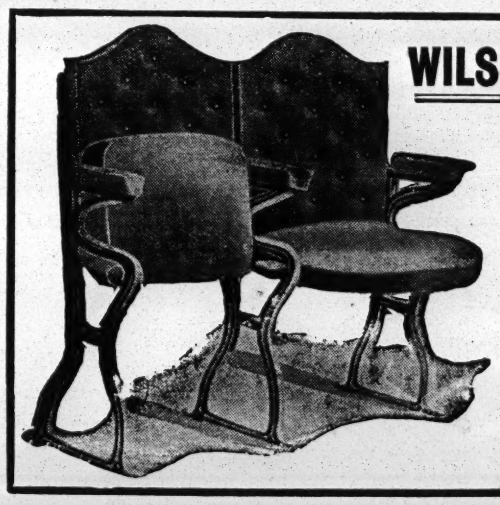

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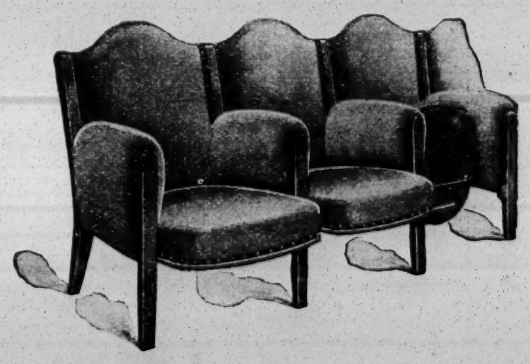

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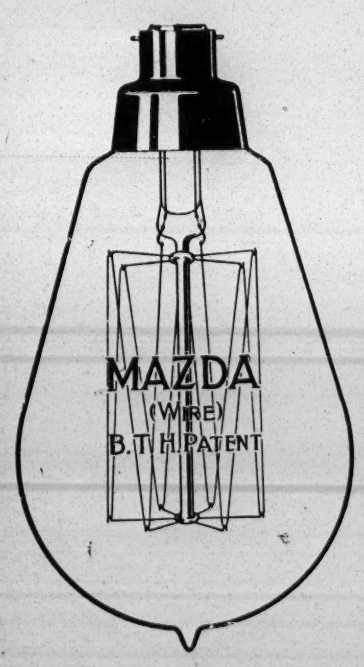

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THEATRE LIGHTING.

In no department of the modern theatre has there been more improvement of late years than in that of lighting. Many minds and many firms have been at work on the problem of how to secure better illumination, and we refer below to the best-known and most successful of the systems which have been developed.

As a rule the modern theatre or music hall is a veritable marvel of luxury so far as decoration and seating accommodation are concerned. The lighting arrangements, however, are not always all that could be desired, and generally compare very unfavourably with the beauty and comfort of the other equipment.

In this connection, the British Thomson-Houston Company, Limited, of Mazda House, 77, Upper Thames-street, have made a great advance in the "B.T.H. Eye-Rest System" of indirect lighting. The Eye-Rest system of lighting represents the first and only successful method of illuminating theatres in accordance with the principles of hygiene and art. Lighting by bare lamps suspended directly in the line of vision is bad both hygienically and architecturally, and should be avoided. Many theatres partially avoid such evils by placing well-shaded lamps close up to the ceiling and out of the line of vision. Direct lighting of this or any other kind, however, does not give uniform illumination; it has a dwarfing effect on the auditorium, and it fails to bring out the architectural and decorative details of the upper portions of the interior.

The conditions require a method of lighting which will give adequate illumination throughout the auditorium without any irritating glare or harsh shadows.

These requirements are met by the "Eye-Rest" system of lighting, which employs suspended bowls containing powerful silvered glass reflectors. The reflectors are upturned to the ceiling, and the light from the lamps is first reflected to the ceiling and thence distributed uniformly over the whole auditorium.

The light is soft and evenly diffused, and there are no points of intense brilliance to irritate the audience and cause patchy illumination. There is a beautiful mellowness about "Eye-Rest" illumination which makes it especially suitable for theatre auditoriums. The effect of "Eye-Rest" in direct lighting is very similar to that of sunlight coming through an obscured glass roof. A clever invention is the new B.T.H. Metallic Theatre Dimmer. Practically every modern theatre has realised the necessity for some method of gradually lowering or increasing the intensity of the auditorium illumination. Liquid dimmers are generally used, but, although if carefully looked after they give a fairly good adjustment of the light, they are dirty and inconvenient, and frequently in need of repair.

The B.T.H. Dimmer is a more convenient apparatus in every way. It consists of one or more metal plates, the resistance of which can be varied by a lever. The single-plate dimmers are suitable for small installations, and can be fixed to the wall. The multiple-plate dimmers are made up in banks of the required size, and stand on the floor. B.T.H. Dimmers are more compact than liquid dimmers, and they need no attention. More important still, they give much more reliable results than liquid dimmers, because the resistance of the plates is always the same, whereas the resistance of liquid dimmer pots varies with the temperature and consistency of the liquid. B.T.H. Dimmers are, of course, also employed for many stage-lighting effects, for which purpose they are admirably suited.

B.T.H. Flood and Spot lamps, which have been described in previous issues, are the most satisfactory stage-lighting units in existence. These lamps can be tilted in any direction, when in operation, without readjusting or earthing of parts.

B.T.H. stage arc lamps have been designed to meet all the requirements of modern stage lighting in regard to colour effects, and can be operated from a fly perch as easily as from a balcony rail.

The General Electric Company.

Foremost amongst the enterprising firms abovementioned is the General Electric Company, Limited, 67, Queen Victoria-street, E.C., which has carefully traversed the whole field of accessories required by the various managers for the securing of the maximum amount of comfort for their patrons.

Having established factories at Witton, Birmingham, and Manchester, as well as in London, equipped with the most modern appliances, and under the direction of electrical experts of the first rank, they are enabled to place before the managers of theatres, music and cinema halls, the various fittings required, replete with the latest improvements, and at the right prices.

First amongst these are the stage arc lamps, which have been designed with a view to meeting the requirements of general stage work. They are exceedingly strong, and adapted to withstand hard wear and rough usage. The case is made of sheet iron, lined with asbestos, well ventilated and entirely flameproof, being totally enclosed in order to conform to the regulations of the London County Council. A special feature of these lamps is the method of swinging out the mechanism for trimming, thus avoiding the inconvenience of having to remove the complete mechanism in order to re-carbon them. The carbons required are four inches in length, burning about four hours with one trim, with a current carrying capacity of 10 to 15 amp., showing that the advantage of economy is gained.

A very interesting piece of apparatus is the "Applebee" Patent Screen or "Spotlight" Shutter, which can be fitted to any stage arc lamp. It is attached to the inside of the lamp and operates from the back. By its use, strong shadows can be obviated, and the gradually diminishing light is entirely under the control of the operator. By using the mica-slide, the projection of prismatic colouring upon the object is avoided.

The General Electric Company, Limited, also specialises in the manufacture of battens and hanging lengths, the necessary adjuncts of stage lighting. These battens consist of a sheet-iron reflector, enamelled white inside and black outside, and are designed to give the maximum reflection. They are bound at the top at both sides with stout angle-iron running the full length of the batten, thus forming a trough for the cables, and are fitted with a sheet-iron cover to protect the same. The batten is suspended by separate groups of hanging chains, which are attached by wrought-iron hangers, riveted to the angle-iron framework, each group consisting of four chains, terminating in an inserted wrought-iron chackle. A suitable number of suspensions are provided according to the length, to protect the lamps from mechanical injury. The front is fitted with a heavy galvanised gauge iron wire-mesh guard.

Amongst the various accessories required by the proprietors of music halls, the programme number indicator will specially appeal on the points of efficiency and economy. The number of lamps required by this indicator is considerably smaller than that of any other, only twenty wires being used, whilst the numbers are clearly and well defined. By using Osram lamps, a further reduction in the use of current is obtained, without diminishing the brilliancy.

A further advantage in the use of this indicator is to be seen in the fact that it can be controlled from either side of the stage from one position.

In the smaller halls, where it is deemed to be inadvisable to incur the expense of a large generator, the difficulty can be overcome by the use of the combined transformer and choking coil. It is suitable for use on any supply of 50 to 100 cycles between 100 and 115 volts or 200 and 230 volts. Against resistances a saving of 75 per cent. of the current can be effected, and it is also useful as a standby in the larger halls.

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Special attention, too, is called to the "Hawkins" and "Morehen" Plugs. The "Hawkins" Plug is an exceptionally strongly made hard wood block, and has detachable pins, by means of which male or female contacts can be made. When two of these plugs are used, they make an excellent connector for stage flexible leads.

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THE TEMPLE LADIES' HOCKEY CLUB.

Under the patronage of Lord Charles Beresford, Sir Bryan Leighton and Lady Leighton, and Mr. Landon Ronald, the Temple Ladies' Hockey Club's third annual concert was given at the Guildhall School of Music on the 9th inst. The programme consisted of a fairy play, "Moonshine," an idyll "Springtime," and a rag-time pantomime, "A Rag-ed Cinderella," Miss May Shepperd, the captain of the club, being the authoress of all three.

In "Moonshine," a Human wanders into Fairyland, meets Puck and Peter Pan and Folly, and other inhabitants of that delightful region, and is surprised when Moonshine is announced to appear. It is all very pretty until Human hears her mother's voice, and wants to get back, and then Puck and Co. disappear, and Human is left. It was well acted, especially by the authoress as Human, Miss May Ritchie as Puck, Miss Ada Winterbourne as a Shadow (her song, "Wynken, Blynken, and Nod," was well rendered), and Miss Winifred Ritchie as Folly. Miss Maybel Jones looked very pretty as Peter Pan, and Miss Janet Shepperd as Moonshine danced neatly.

"Springtime" has the advantage of delightful staging. The story centres in the love affair of Ariadne and Hylas, and of the pursuit of Cupid. The Spirit of the Woodland sends Wisdom, Speed, Night and Day to find this elusive little person, and Speed overtakes him. Ariadne is pierced by his arrow, and all ends happily. Miss Wilhelmina Murphy was a lovely little Cupid; Miss May Shepperd was charming as the Spirit of the Woodland; and the four spirits sent in search of Cupid were ably impersonated by Misses Elsie Mizen, Olive King, Mabel Lewis, and Dorothy Dew. Miss Janet Shepperd as Ariadne looked lovely, and Miss Ray Thomas as Hylas was quite good. Misses Ivy Dew, Maybel Jones, and Muriel Kew were sweet nymphs.

"Rag-ed Cinderella" treated the well-known fairy story in four acts on rather original lines. An outstanding feature was the Cinderella of Miss Maybel Jones; Miss Ray Thomas as the Prince was successful; and Miss May Shepperd played the Baron in lively fashion. Buttons was well realised by Miss Peggy Jones; the Demon King and the Demon Imp were nicely played by Miss Elsie Mizen and Miss Mabel Lewis; Clorinda and Thisbe were funnily played by Misses Ada Winterbourne and Olga German; and other parts were well filled by Miss Dorothy Dew as Herald and Miss Mabel Reyes as the Spirit of the Slipper, Miss Janet Shepperd dancing agreeably as Starlight. The stage-management reflected credit on Mr. Frank Sealey, late of Mr. George Dance's "The Hope" company.

"THE LADY SLAVEY" AT CROYDON.

On Monday last, at the Hippodrome, Croydon, Mr. Leonard Willoughby's company, in the popular musical comedy, "The Lady Slavey," attracted a large and appreciative audience. An exceedingly good-looking chorus, with pleasing voices, has been selected for this production, and the dresses are tasteful and quite up to the mark. The scenery is also in keeping with the general excellence of the play, and an augmented orchestra renders the tuneful music in first-rate style. Mr. Paddy Dupres works hard and satisfactorily in the rôle of Major O'Neill; Mr. J. E. Piddock displays to advantage his vocal powers in the part of Vincent A. Evelyn; the fun is kept at high pressure by Mr. W. T. Thompson in his droll impersonation of Robert; and Mr. Albert Darnley as Lord Lavender keeps the house agog with merriment. Misses Elsa Cowie and Ena Cowie are vivacious as Maud and Beatrice; Miss Laura Thompson acts with light-hearted gaiety and great charm of manner as Phyllis; and Miss Vic. Charlton is very fascinating and agreeable in the rôle of Flo Honeydew.

In our recent notice of the performance of "The Nun" in the Olympia Liverpool production of "The Miracle," the name of Miss Dorothy Clifton was given as Bertha Clifton. The part is a very trying one, and Miss Dorothy has made a success of it.

The funeral of Mr. F. J. Watts, formerly stage-manager at the Brighton Theatre Royal, took place at Beeding on the 10th inst., in the presence of the following friends:—Mrs. Sid Black, Mr. and Mrs. Clayton (Hove), Mr. Chapman (Beeding), Mr. Floulger, Mr. Tom Towns (Beeding), Mrs. Woolger (Shoreham), and Mrs. Wissmann (Beeding). Floral tributes were sent by, among others: Mr. Harry Chapman, "In memories of the Theatre Royal"; Mr. and Mrs. Clayton and family, Mr. and Mrs. Elms and employees, Mr. Floulger, Miss Scace, Mrs. Thomas Towns, Mrs. Wheeler (widow of the late acting-manager at the Theatre Royal), and Mr. Wissmann.

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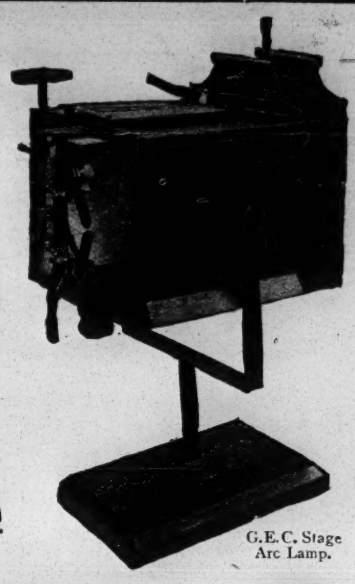
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MISS STEAD AT MARGATE.

Miss Estelle Stead, the clever Shakespearean actress, daughter of the late Mr. W. H. Stead, who was drowned in the Titanic, is appearing at the Theatre Royal, Margate, this week, in company with Mr. Farmer Skein, who was for many years lead in Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer's Shakespearean company, in a series of Shakespeare's best-known and most popular plays. These two notable exponents of the great Bard's works have joined forces for a newly organised tour of the provinces, and for which purpose the whole of the scenery, wardrobe, armour, and the general accessories of the late Bandmann-Palmer company have been purchased. This new company's répertoire will include "Romeo and Juliet," "The Merchant of Venice," "Richard III.," "Hamlet," and "The Taming of the Shrew," and it is Miss Stead's ambition to bring the grand plays of Shakespeare before as many people as possible. From Margate will follow visits to the Broadway Theatre, New Cross, Nottingham, Blackpool, Sheffield, and other large towns in the provinces.

Miss Stead chose for her opening production on Monday night "The Taming of the Shrew," a play which brought into prominence the resourcefulness of this gifted actress and her able coadjutor. In the part of Katherine Miss Stead played to perfection the wayward, wilful, truculent Kate, eventually transformed into the obedient spouse. There was a charm of contrast in the manner in which the two opposite characters were brought out, and her delightful acting was fully and deservedly recognised. Mr. Farmer Skein, in the rôle of Petruchio, had a character which fitted him to a nicety. The humour of Petruchio was taken up cleverly, and his methods appealed to the house irresistibly. Miss Eileen Atherley, as Bianca, and Miss Dorothy Drury in the rôle of the widow, were each well placed; Bianca especially being played in a delightful manner, and Grumio was in the safe hands of Mr. Ernest Spalding. In the part of Tranio Mr. John Beamish was exceedingly good; and the Biondello of Mr. Richard Henry Lace was deserving of recognition. Mr. Walter Murray was good as Baptista; Mr. D. L. Murray's Vicentio was excellent; and the Lucentio of Mr. Douglas Vigors, and the Gremio of Mr. Escott Robson, were each worthy of commendation. The remaining characters in the cast were capably presented by Mr. Bernhardt Turner, as A Pedant; Mr. Bernard Marsh, as Phillip; Mr. Guy Loys, in the dual rôle of Gregory and Nathanial; Mr. M. Morn, as the cook; and Mr. Sydney Keith, as Curtis.

The programme for the remainder of the week was: Tuesday, "Richard III."; Wednesday, "The Merchant of Venice"; Thursday, "Romeo and Juliet"; Friday, "Hamlet"; Saturday, "The Taming of the Shrew."

It is now generally admitted that personality is practically everything in casting a play, but years ago there were few who realised for what parts nature had specially fitted them. In consequence of this lack of sagacity, men who were born to appear in the lowest walks of comedy were vain enough to think they were destined to shine in the highest ranks of tragedy. It is on record that an actor, who was not in the least qualified to make a figure in buskins, felt himself bold enough to attempt the character of Richard III. He played the part in so ludicrous a style that he failed not to raise a laugh whenever he made an appearance. In his last scene he was particularly forcible, and died in so droll a manner that he was "encored"! Flattered beyond words at so new a mark of dramatic distinction, he started up and died again, amidst peals of mirth from all parts of the house.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the council meeting held at 32, Regent-street, on Tuesday, April 15.

Present: Mr. Clarence Derwent (in the chair), Mr. H. W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Messrs. John Mortimer, Arthur Dennis, Fredk. James, J. Benedict Butler, Ben Webster, F. J. Arlton, Cyril Cattley, Wyn Weaver, Norman Yates, Adnam Sprange, William Devereux, C. F. Collings, W. G. Fay, Murri Moncrieff, Miss Laura Leycester, Miss Judith Kyrle, Miss Lucy Sibley, and Mr. D. Young (secretary).

The Secretary read a letter from a town clerk with regard to a complaint against a theatre, and stating that the complaint was before the licensing authorities.

The Hon. Solicitor reported progress in three cases.

The Finance Committee's report was read by Mr. Dennis, and adopted on the motion of Mr. Sprange, seconded by Mr. Devereux.

The Secretary read Mr. Robert Harcourt's resolution with regard to the censorship, and, after considerable discussion, it was decided that the Association's views on the censorship question should be communicated to a certain member of Parliament. The chairman undertook to see this done.

Mr. Arlton reported further with regard to the Actors' Orphanage Garden Fête, and Mr. Butler moved: "That only those who are members of the A.A. shall be allowed to take part in the A.A. Booth," seconded by Miss Leycester. Mr. Dennis moved as an amendment: "That as a committee has been appointed, the whole subject of the A.A. Booth be left in their hands, and to engage who they wished," seconded by Mr. Mortimer.

On this being put to the meeting, Messrs. Mortimer, James, Devereux, Arlton, Collings, Cattley, Dennis, and Moncrieff voted in favour of the amendment, and Messrs. Yates, Sprange, and Miss Sibley against.

Elections: Irene Hentschel and F. Reginald Bach.

Nominations: Laurence Somerville and Nancy Lylach.

Mr. Mortimer promised to attend as acting-secretary on Friday afternoon, April 18.

Miss Sibley asked if permission might be given for a Stage Players' Society, formed of members, to use the rehearsal room; and Mr. Mortimer moved, seconded by Mr. Dennis: "That permission be given to the committee of the Stage Players' Society to have the use of the rehearsal room once a week, provided that the room is not otherwise required." Carried unanimously.

Miss Judith Kyrle gave notice of motion with regard to the extension of the agency.

In view of the recent successful launch of "Romeo and Juliet" by the Brothers Melville at the New Princes Theatre, it is interesting to recollect the amusing incident that once occurred when Quick, the actor, played the part of Romeo. He was seized with an involuntary fit of laughter, which subjected him to the severe rebuke of the audience. This happened in the scene between Romeo and the Apothecary, where the latter on going for the phial of poison found it broken. Not to detain the scene, however, he hastily snatched up a pot of soft pomatum. Quick was no sooner presented with this than he fell into a hearty fit of laughter. Being recalled to a sense of his duty by the rebuffs of his auditors, he stepped forward and made the following whimsical statement: "Ladies and gentlemen, I could not resist the idea which struck me when the pot of pomatum, instead of the phial of poison was presented. Had he at the same time given me a teaspoon, it would not have been so improper; for the poison might have been made up as a lenitive electuary. But if you please, ladies and gentlemen, we will begin the scene again without laughing."

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

Correspondents will please note that it is absolutely necessary that all copy should reach us on Wednesday mornings by first post.

THE ADELPHI.

The daintiness of "The Dancing Mistress," its melodious score, and its lively humour have served to attract crowded audiences to the Adelphi since the production last autumn, but freshness was given to the piece by the introduction on Wednesday of several new numbers. Mr. Joseph Coyne, the effervescent aviator Teddy Cavanagh, and Miss Gertie Millar, delightfully demure and captivating as the dancing mistress, figure agreeably in a duet on skis, the air of which has a melodious lilt. The happily-mated pair seem to find their novel footwear no encumbrance, for they dance with all their accustomed agility, and in a way that is most exhilarating. A new opening chorus has also been furnished for the Swiss scene, in which the singers whirl about blithely on skates while a snowballing match is in progress. Later Miss Millar sings a piquant song, of which "Everybody likes our Mary" is the refrain. She gives every line the utmost point and significance, supplementing it with a dance of no little originality. Another new infusion is a waltz-song, "My heart has room for you all," in which Mons. G. Carvey's tenor voice is heard with pleasing effect. Mr. Coyne also takes the chorus through the intricacies of the "Two-step Glide." All the novelties were heartily encored.

The more familiar portions of the play are none the less effective, Mr. James Blakeley's drolleries as the butler Widdicombe proving irresistibly diverting. He has added up-to-date verses to his topical duet, "Not at present," sung in association with Miss Gracie Leigh, the gay and guileless Scotch lassie, Jeanie McTavish. Mr. Nicholas Hannen is still the bright and buoyant Lord Lyndale, and the gaiety of the audience owes more than ever to the fun furnished by Mlle. M. Gaumont as the vivacious French mistress who has such a command of English colloquialisms.

KING'S THEATRE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, April 14, the Romantic Drama, entitled

"WESTWARD HO!"

Out of Charles Kingsley's famous story Miss Peggy Webling has made a play with a strong appeal to the patriotic and adventurous instincts of all English men and women. Stirring incidents and exciting situations follow each other with breathless rapidity, the characters all have grip and grit, the hero, Amyas Leigh, and his courageous band of followers handle the difficulties and dangers which beset their path with compelling dash and skill, and over the whole is the romantic glamour of the brave old days of privateering, when gentlemen went fighting their country's battles on their own account and discovering fresh continents across the seas. As presented this week at the King's by Mr Matheson Lang's company, it was an assured success from the first rise of the curtain, and its progress was punctuated by gratifying salvos of applause. The part of Amyas Leigh was played in fine style by Mr. Sydney Vautier, who not only looked the part to a hair and brought to his assistance a voice well calculated to do justice to his many fine speeches, but acted with a verve and skill that carried all before him. Miss Hutin Britton, too, was excellent as Ayacanora, the half-English, half-Spanish girl whom Amyas delivers from the Indians, who have brought her up. Adopting a charming broken English, Miss Britton managed to suggest very convincingly the peculiar mingling of refinement and semi-savage simplicity which constituted the girl's nature, and in the scene where, in the first flood of gratitude to her rescue, she unblushingly makes love to him, she delighted the house. Miss Dorothy Ripley was good as Rose Salt ern, and rose without difficulty to the emotional requirements of the part; while Mr. Eric Algar made a handsome figure of her lover, Frank Leigh. Mr. Harry Ashford as Salvation Yeo acted with great skill, and in particular made a deep impression by the manner in which, when weakened in body and mind by a long period of captivity under the Inquisition, he at length meets his friends again and recounts his wrongs and adventures. Miss Nona Wynne gave a capable impersonation of the page, Robin; Mr. A. H. Steerman was sufficiently sinister as Fra Gerundis; Mr. Montague Love was a striking Don Guzman; Mr. R. Scrope-Quenton was dignified and virile as Sir Richard Grenville; and Messrs. Clarence Blakiston, Roy G. Beard, and Arthur Seaton were good as Arthur St. Leger, Will Carey, and Tom Coffin respectively. Quite a hit was made by Mr. F. Percival Stevens as Jack Brimblecombe, a humble Devonian gourmand with a penchant for "little fatty woodcocks." The smaller parts in a long cast were also well filled. The piece was excellently mounted, the scenery being from the original designs of Mr. Matheson Lang, and the incidental music by Mr. John Ansell and Mr. Frederick Rosse was taking and appropriate.

WIMBLEDON THEATRE.

On Monday, April 14, the Comedy, entitled "THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST."

This is the title of Oscar Wilde's celebrated comedy, a St. James's success that has been revived more than once owing to its popularity. It might possibly be inferred by an unfortunate person who has not yet had the felicity of witnessing this witty society satire that the play, according to its name, bore some reference to the great advantage and necessity of being serious and painstaking in some particular business of life. Far from it. The important item is the fact of not being baptised in a particular name, solely, of course, the fault of the parents, and for this reason, that two charming demoiselles whom a couple of the youthful male gender would woo and wed insist upon the name of their fiancé being Ernest. In order to indulge in certain flittings up to town a worthy country J.P. manufactures the existence of a brother whom he unwittingly christens Ernest; while a gay young spark who seeks rest from the social sphere of London invents the being of an invalid friend, one Bunbury, who constantly invites him to seclusion and solitude in the provinces, always, so it happens, at convenient times. But while in the plot there is ample evidence of a skilled and masterly hand, it is the pithy, piquant epigrams that bubble forth from the mouths of all the characters that is the peculiar and particular charm of this truly fascinating comedy. Almost before one has time to chuckle over one sly hit at a fashion or folly of the day there bursts out another equally effervescing. In order that the sparkle and spirit of the smart sayings may not be overlooked it is necessary that the acting should be likewise bright and the delivery of the merry lines clear and distinct. All these are to be found in Mr. Frank Weathersby's company. Miss Maud Kirwan was exactly the aristocratic society matron as Lady Bracknell, and Miss May Edward Saker was excellent as that thoroughly up-to-date young lady, Hon. Gwendoline Fairfax. Equally successful as the unsophisticated country miss, Cicely Cardew, was Miss Margaret Boyd. A capital character sketch was given by Miss Dot Seilby as Miss Prism, the governess. Mr. Harold Weston had the important part of John Worthing, J.P., to undertake, and he played it in just the right style, in fact, it could scarcely have been improved upon. Mr. Julian D'Albie was the youthful and vivacious Algernon Moncrieff, and is deserving of a hearty word of praise for his performance. Mr. Edward Mervyn in the amusing part of the Rev. Canon Chasuble, D.D., was highly diverting; and Mr Philip Durham as Merriman, the butler, and Mr. L. Stuart Fergusson as Lane, the servant, and Moncrieff completed the cast. The play was produced in excellent style by Mr. Gerald Ames. It was preceded by a little pathetic picture of domestic romance by Charles Hannan, entitled "The Setting of the Sun," in which Miss Kirwan and Miss Boyd, and Mr. Durham and Mr. Fergusson gave interesting studies of the different characters. Mr. Alfred C. Toone, it may be mentioned, is now the musical director at this theatre.

CORONET THEATRE.

On Monday, April 14, the Play, entitled "BELLA DONNA."

Sir George Alexander's own company is appearing this week at Notting-hill-gate in James Bernard Fagan's adaptation of Robert Hichens' thrilling and picturesque novel, "Bella Donna." Boiled down for stage purposes, the descriptive analytical interest of the novel is merged in melodramatic thrills and scenic effect, with characterisation as its dominant note. The piece is wonderfully well acted and Oriental symbolism is graphically suggested in the setting. Mr. Stephen T. Ewart is excellent as the determined Dr. Meyer Isaacson, polished, urbane, strong, resourceful, resolute, and vigilant. His silent battle for his friend's life, in which he pits his strength against an equally determined, wary, and unscrupulous woman, bent on his destruction, is engrossing and enthralling to a degree. Miss Edyth Latimer exactly adapts herself to the requirements of the part of Mrs. Ruby Chepstow of the title-rôle; she is fascinating and terrible by turns, and a slightly artificial manner accentuates the selfishness and insincerity of her nature, till in a fit of animal passion she throws prudence to the winds. Naturally one great point of the novel, the passing of the "Indian summer" of her beauty, has to be omitted. As Mahmoud Baroudi, Mr. Herbert Ranson skilfully portrays the luxury, the consummate craft, the latent strength, and unbounded egoism of the Oriental. Mr. George Bishop, as the quixotic, credulous and chivalrous Nigel Armine, acts remarkably well, his transition from health to sickness, and back to well-being, are most naturally depicted. Mr. Cyril Cattley, childlike and bland, as the always smiling Ibraham; Mr. Eric G. Turner, as the moody and devout Hamza; and Mr. J. Adean-Barlow, as the loquacious Hassan, all present characteristic types of the Egyptian. Miss Nella Powys is very charming in the small part of Mrs. Marchmont, Mr. Ian Campbell is quite satisfactory as Dr. Hartley, and the small part of Marie, enacted by Miss Mollie Moynagh, fits well in the picture. Mr. Cyril Cattley stage-manages the production.

FULHAM THEATRE.

On Monday, April 14, the Farcical Comedy, entitled "THE DUST OF EGYPT."

A good company, under the direction of Mr. George Waters, has been paying a visit with this amusing comedy from Wyndham's. Mr. Arthur Poole is prominent with a capital performance of the good-natured Geoffrey Lascelles, who is embarrassed with the care of a most charming mummy, who comes to life in a highly inconvenient manner. Mr. Poole gets quite the right touch of cheerful optimism in his difficulties, and carries the action along with a light hand. Mr. George Child is very amusing as the susceptible old uncle, Sir John Manning, and his gallantry towards the fair Egyptian was most entertaining. Mr. V. Stanley did all that is necessary as Dan Smith in good style. Mr. Cyril Percy gave a very comical sketch of the fatuous Simpson. Mr. A. H. Reed as Ani and Mr. J. Halstead as Pinetem showed excellent elocutionary powers in those parts. Mr. Ardene Linden adds to the fun with his quaint rendering of the old butler Billings; Mr. Percy Groves was most business-like as the valet Benson, and Mr. Peter Millar did well as the village constable. Miss Annie Stalman was a dignified and gracious old lady as Lady Lillian Manning, and was well supported by Miss Beatrice Egerton as Miss Phœbe Manning. Miss Maude Gill acted brightly as Violet Bradley, and Miss Mabel Constance contributed a humorous study of a rustic lady's maid. Miss Jessica Waters was very successful in the part of the Princess Amenset, a long and exacting part. Miss Waters has good dramatic power, as is well shown by her display of primitive passion, and she is an elocutionist of no mean order. "The Dust of Egypt" was preceded by a sketch, "After the Opera," one of those condensed and thrilling "shockers" borrowed from the French. It deals with the usual "ménage à trois," beloved of the Gallic dramatist, and strikes a strong note of tragedy. The principal parts were taken by Mr. Poole, Mr. Victor Stanley, and Miss Jessica Waters.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, April 14, the Play, entitled "EAST LYNNE."

Mr. J. Pitt-Hardacre and his company at the Dalston Theatre are greatly entertaining audiences with the pathetic play, as performed by the late Wilson Barrett, "East Lynne." Mr. J. Pitt-Hardacre, who has written a prologue specially for this tour, appears as Archibald Carlyle, and fully secures the sympathy of the audience. Miss Bessie Rignold as Lady Isabel Carlyle, the jealous wife, has also the goodwill of onlookers from start to finish, and in the closing scenes of the play her acting is decidedly of the pathetically tragic order. The song, "When other lips," is feelingly rendered. Mr. Rowe Jocolyn is John Hallijohn in the prologue, and his assumption of a passionate man of the better-class agricultural type is very true to life. Mr. Paul Beresford is a quietly dignified Lord Mountsevern. Mr. John J. Hooker as Frank Levison, alias Thorne, correctly portrays a heartless man of the world. Mr. Fred Dobell is an amusing Mr. Justice Hare. Richard Hare, his son, has a decidedly earnest representative in Mr. George Pammer. This actor does his work well, sparing no pains. Mr. Fred T. Carroll is a quaint Lawyer Dill, and his scenes with Miss Addie Adair, who appears as Cornelia Carlyle, are amusing. Mr. Joe Rowland causes the customary roars of laughter when he appears as P.C. Bullock. Miss Ida Dene is an attractive Barbara Hare, and she acts with real feeling. Miss Nellie Jay truthfully portrays the faithful servant as Joyce; Miss Elsie Attwood is Suzanne, French maid to Lady Isabel, and Miss Mignon Esric creates some laughter by her quaint actions as Wilson, a nursemaid. Willie Carlyle and Lucy Carlyle are represented by Maisy Mignon and Bertha Weatherley respectively.

THE SHAKESPEARE.

On Monday, April 14, the Play, entitled "JANE SHORE."

Mr. Max Goldberg's version of the life of the beautiful mistress of Edward IV. is replete with interest. The author makes her what More wrote of her—a much-maligned, a much-abused woman—"beautiful—her face pale, yet more fair beyond others," and this picture is realised to the full by that gifted actress, Miss Enid Ross. She serves the part with fidelity, full of passion, pathos, and love, and altogether it is a remarkable portraiture. Mr. John F. Preston, whose return has been most welcome, gives a fine rendering of Richard, Duke of Gloster, the typical Richard, full of life, full of character, full of design, unscrupulous to a degree. As Lord Hastings Mr. Francis Everard shone with conspicuous ability, and his stirring lines of passionate love, equally with those of hot defiance of Richard, set willing hands applauding. Mr. Walter Graham plays Matthew Shore with much feeling and dignity. Of commanding presence, Mr. J. Wingold Laurence makes of Anthony a conspicuous part, and his interpretation of the character is a robust one. To Mr. Herbert Woodin has been assigned Quintain Scarsdale, and the witticisms of the old-time apprentice are cleverly delivered. Mr. Chauncey Morris represents a typical swashbuckler in the person of Red Murdock. Miss Maud Kynnersley shows power as Elizabeth Woodville, and is markedly effective in her great scene with Jane Shore in the chapel of St. John. Miss Nellie Sheffield gives us a quiet but clever portrayal of Anthony's wife, Alizon. The two princes are nicely played by the Misses Mollie Wetherall and Edith Leslie, and other parts are assumed by Mr. George Dunsdon as Sir William Catesby, and Miss Florence Davis as the Lady Effingham. The scenery is accurate, and the costumes are effective. The house is under the management of Mr. Bernard Lawrence Edwards, and Mr. Leon Jesse is the musical-director.

THE BROADWAY, NEW CROSS.

On Monday, April 14, the Play, entitled "SAPHO."

There are several adaptations of Daudet's celebrated novel before the public, and Miss Ada G. Abbott's present version may rank among the best of them. The interesting play is done full justice to by Mr. Ernest R. Abbott's company. Sapho is well played by Miss Ada Abbott, who skilfully shows us the complex nature of the unhappy woman, at one time utterly abandoned, at another earnestly desiring to lead a purer life. Mr. John Johnston makes a handsome, vigorous, and stalwart young lover as Jean Gaussin, though perhaps a little more restraint in the opening scenes would enhance the effectiveness of his impersonation. In the second act Mr. Johnston ably executes a couple of violin solos. Mr. Edwin Keene causes abundant laughter as the old lady-killer, Cesaire. Mr. Philip Layton gives a polished rendering of the sculptor. Mr. Ivor C. Gould makes a dignified and courtly Dechelette. Miss Winifred Rutland is sympathetic as Gaussin's youthful fiancée Lucy. Miss Isabel Singleton is amusing as Aunt Divonne, while Mr. R. Edmondston is good as old Legrand. Mr. Stephen Crossley does well as Flammant. The scenery and effects are quite adequate. Mr. Stephen Crossley is the acting-manager for the visiting company. Special mention should be made of the excellence of the Broadway orchestra, which is under the experienced leadership of Mr. Charles H. Peters.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, April 14, the Play, entitled "THE WHITE SLAVE TRAFFIC."

Mr. Frederick Baugh's company presents in vivid style the realistic scenes of the above play. A hearty welcome was accorded to Mr. Albert Ward, who is a great local favourite. He presents an excellent character study of the "Parson," the Rev. Walter Hartford. Miss E. Walter Hemming gives a truly pathetic interest to the part of Stella Vincent, the Beauty. As the Fairy Caprice Julien, Miss Violet Beatrice was seen to great advantage. Mr. Alec Wills has a difficult part to play as Marmaduke Brewster (the Demon), but he acquits himself successfully. Mis Ada Franks creates much merriment as Juliet Baggs, the Dresser, and is capably assisted by Mr. Fred Moule, who is a most amusing William Bloak. As Lord Arthur Buntingford (an "Old Blood") Mr. Fellows Bassett is excellent. A more despicable villain than that provided by Mr. Walter Thornton as Roman Carlotta could hardly be wished for, and Miss Marie McCauley deserves the highest praise for her assumption of the part of Cava Marx, "the Beast." The Hon. Fitzroy Clarence was ably sustained by Mr. E. Harvey White, and others who rendered assistance were Messrs. Horace Lang (Hassan), Harry Seymour (Swan), and Guy Forks (Dick Puckridge). The piece was well dressed, and the scenery was excellent. Mr. Fred Moule is the producer and manager for the company.

THE BRITANNIA, HOXTON.

On Monday, April 14, the drama, entitled "THE GREED OF GOLD."

The dramatic fare provided for Mr. Morton Powell's patrons this week is "The Greed of Gold," which was presented on Monday before a large audience, to whom the intense heart interest, mingled with really thrilling incidents, particularly appealed. Mr. Alfred Lugg, as Arthur Errol, the young hero, gives a vigorous and virile performance, and scores a great success. His acting throughout reaches a high level. Mr. Frank Stone distinguishes himself by an earnest and painstaking study of Harry Hood, the scoundrelly husband, and earns the full wrath of the audience by his attempts to ruin his unfortunate wife. A strong and well-defined portraiture is contributed by Mr. Leo Main as the dumb man, a clever character study. Mr. Sidney Kearns and Mr. Fred Hunter, as Conn Cramer and Cully Snigg, cause the heartiest laughter. Mr. Hugh Carmichael gives an excellent impersonation of Mr. Brightstone. Miss Berita Hanbury is a very clever child-actress, and, as Cecil Hood, wins the full sympathy of the audience. Miss Nellie James causes no little amusement as Pattie Mayfield, the servant. Miss Effie plays charmingly, yet with authority, as Mrs. Maxwell. Miss Winnie Donovan gives a finished and convincing performance as Dora Hood, the ill-treated wife, speaking her lines with feeling and emotion. Mr. Archie Grant is a realistic policeman. An exciting mill scene in the first act keeps the audience in a state of nervous tension.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, April 14, the Musical Comedy, entitled "THE BALKAN PRINCESS."

Messrs. Leslie Morton and Guyton Heath are presenting for the first time in Woolwich this charming musical play, and, needless to say, it is drawing enormous houses. In the title-rôle, Princess Stephanie of Balaria, Miss Cissie Vaughan achieves a most gratifying success. Besides being a good actress she possesses a fine voice, which she uses to the utmost advantage in the various numbers allotted to her. Miss Nancy Buckland is delightfully chic as Magda; her artful wiles, shy glances, and bewitching manner completely captivating not only Blatz, but the entire audience. Miss Beryl Brodie as the discarded Sofia is very good, and shows "the woman," despite the "cloak of Bohemianism" she wears. Mr. J. Warren-Foster is excellent as the Grand Duke Sergius in everything he does, singing, acting, and expression alike being perfect. Mr. Fred Seymour makes the most of the opportunities offered him as the Prime Minister, Count Boethby, as also does Mr. H. Spawton as the irritable restaurant proprietor, Emil; whilst the fierce-looking, muscular "chucker-out," Herman (as Henri calls him) is in the safe hands of Mr. Chas. Apsey. Mr. J. S. Durant is well placed as the bogus Prince Boris of Metalia, otherwise Max Hein. He is also associated with Miss Margaret Lynhart in a weird dance in the last act; whilst in the second act this lady gives a splendid exhibition of Continental dancing. The principal mirth-provokers are Messrs. Freddie Bentley and Edmond Russell as Blatz and Henri respectively. This couple keep the house in merry mood the whole time they are on the stage. Minor characters are capably filled by Misses Gladys Johnson, Violet Gilette, Helen Franks, M. Cole, Violet Tremayne, Ray Gordon, and Dorothy Sinfield (daughter of Capt. Sinfield, A.S.C., Woolwich), Messrs. Alex. Bolton, A. H. Reid, and J. E. Swinburne. The play is beautifully mounted and dressed, and the chorus and augmented orchestra is under the able direction of Mr. Thos. B. Boatwright.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, April 14, the Drama, entitled "THE MORMON AND HIS WIVES."

Mr. Oswald Cray has brought a first-class company to support him in this sensational play. Mr. Cray himself undertakes the arduous rôle of the Rev. Dudley Dude, an upright, manly cleric. Possessed of splendid physique, he is the beau ideal of the "hero." He is ably supported by Miss Sybil Hare, as Nellie Weirdale, a mill hand. A trio of scoundrels such as Josiah Beamish, Silas Mellish, and Julia Beamish, assisted by the rascally Zacariah Papp, create all the trouble, and are effectively portrayed by Messrs. Clifton Earle and Wm. H. Burton, Miss Aimee Grattan-Clyndes, and Mr. F. Morton-Wright. Excellent character studies are those of Nellie's guardians, Mr. and Mrs. Weirdale, by Miss Helen Lowther and Mr. Harold Stevens. As the Indians, Osprey and White Hawk, Messrs. Chas. A. Chandler and Chas. Fields acquit themselves creditably. The minor parts are in safe hands. The scenery and effects are on an elaborate scale, and, taken altogether, the show is a decided success.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, April 14, the Drama, by C. A. Clarke, entitled "LOVE AND A THRONE."

Monday's matinée audience accorded a warm welcome to this piece, which is making its first appearance in Stratford this week. The interesting story tells of love and intrigue in Court circles of an imaginary European State, and full advantage has been taken for the display of handsome uniforms and dresses, whilst the scenic effects are very appropriate. Mr. Travis Green's company interprets the piece capitally. Mr. Percy Ballard as Panger, the priest with the crooked nose, who is in reality Wenslane, King of Cortannia, plays throughout with dignity and expression, and is highly popular in the part. The usurping and blackguardly Prince Gregori is powerfully played by Mr. Charles Adair, who readily wins the hisses which are the tribute of turpitude. Mr. Ernest Digges contributes a sound and experienced performance as Philip Demetri, and Mr. Kenyon Gray acts very incisively as General Melachati. Mr. Tom J. Taylor is a decidedly droll Nikyas, whose monkey tricks are a frequent source of amusement. Miss Genna Lyndon plays with much tact and feeling as the persecuted Helen, and her appeal for justice in the execution scene is an impressive piece of acting. Miss Conyers Radcliffe handles the unthankful rôle of the courtesan Lydia with excellent judgment and artistic restraint. Miss Lulu Bowes' attractive performance does not belie the name of the lady's maid, Piquant; and Little Violet Lussanne stamps herself as a really clever child actress by her impersonation of the boy, Demos. Mr. Kendrew Milson plays convincingly as Captain Klitos; Perikles is sufficiently vicious in the safe hands of Mr. Fred G. Kay; and Mr. Cyril Teale is an excellent Draco.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, April 14, the Drama, entitled "THE SILVER KING."

That evergreen drama, "The Silver King," is the attraction at the Stratford Borough Theatre this week, and the popular parts of this commodious suburban playhouse are being very liberally patronised. A high standard of excellence is maintained in the staging of the piece, and Messrs. Polini and Melford's company is a well-balanced and capable one. Mr. Arthur H. Rooke is an earnest and impressive Wilfred Denver, and he acts with vigour and variety. Mr. H. Elliott-Ball makes a suave and plausible "Spider"; and Mr. Alfred Terris presents a homely and appropriate portraiture of the zealous Jaikes. A grim and gruff sketch of Coombe comes from Mr. Arthur Wright; the crafty Corket is capitally hit off by Mr. Raymond Le Caudey, who, in addition, scores as the parish clerk, Parkin; and Mr. Fred May makes a very satisfactory Gripps. Miss Roberta Pulleyne portrays the trials and tribulations of Nellie Denver with much histrionic skill, and enlists the sympathies of the audience throughout. Miss Margaret Cloud plays with charm and distinction as Olive Skinner, and in smaller rôles Miss Fanny Binstead's thumb-nail impersonation of Tabitha Durdan is prominent, while Little Dolly Douglas shows ability as the child, Cissie.

CRYSTAL PALACE THEATRE.

On Monday, April 14, the Drama, entitled "BELLA DONNA."

Mr. Alban B. Limpus' company have made a distinct success here in Mr. J. Bernard Fagan's powerful drama. The cast throughout is an exceptionally good one, and the special scenery of Egyptian interiors and the temple at Luxor, carried by the company, added greatly to its attractiveness. Mr. E. W. Thomas as Dr. Meyer Isaacson had the quiet manner and reserve force so necessary to this important rôle, and quite dominated the scenes in which he took part. He is well known to Crystal Palace audiences in another play, and received the welcome which his varied talents well deserved. Mr. Dudley Stuart as the Hon. Nigel Armine gave a faithful representation of the easily-swayed and honourable gentleman, who so nearly lost his life by his too great trust in his wife; and Mr. W. J. Butler's rendering of Mahmoud Baroudi deserves all praise, for in voice, appearance, and manner he was absolutely eastern. Mr. Andrews Buck was quite good as Dr. Hartley; and Mr. Ernest Watts-Tye made the most of the small part of Ibrahim, the indoor servant at the villa on the Nile. Mr. Douglas Lewis, as Hamza, the confidential servant, although he had almost nothing to say, was very effective; and Mr. Horace Broad as Dr. Isaacson's servant, was quiet and natural. Miss Georgina Wynter's conception of Mrs. Chepstow was excellent. The mixture of charm and feline spite was splendidly done, and her intense manner was most thrilling. Miss Wynter wore some charming creations with much grace. Miss Agnes Knight was bright and to the point as Mrs. Marchmont, who has so much to do with the dénouement of the play; and Miss Flora Haydon was efficient as Marie, the French maid, who waited on Mrs. Chepstow.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

This week the patrons of this popular place of entertainment are being treated to the Red Indian romantic play, "Queen of the Redskins," which is being cleverly presented by Mr. Travis Green's company. The play was witnessed by crowded audiences at every performance, and loudly applauded after each act. Mr. Walter H. Wilson, who appeared as the devil-may-care Broncho Bill, was most prominent throughout, and played his part excellently. Miss Laura Walker gave a charming and effective portrayal of the Queen of the Redskins, Wahneetah. Mr. Clarence Ibbotson submits a clever and humorous study of the nigger Sambo, and creates plenty of merriment. Mr. Caspar Middleton displayed his abilities in the villainous character of George Lyndhurst; and as the Indian chief, Matawah, Mr. Fred W. Leonard acted particularly well. A capital study of William Lyndhurst, the wealthy settler, was given by Mr. Theodore Kelly, who acted with ease and judgment. Mr. George Davis gave a good account of himself as Louis D'Elvan, the Canadian millionaire; and Miss Flora Leslie submitted a clever and dignified reading of Olive. Miss Phœbe Brady proved herself an accomplished little actress, her portrayal of Little Queenie being extremely good. An hostile chief named Great Bear was in the able hands of Mr. Lionel Moore. The remaining parts were satisfactorily fulfilled, and the staging and scenic effects all that could be desired. The orchestra, conducted by Mr. Ashley Richards, played some enjoyable selections during the intervals.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, April 14, the Play, entitled "THE EARTH."

It is not often that the playgoer has the opportunity of witnessing the author of a great play appearing in his own production, but such is the good fortune of Kennington audiences this week, where Mr. J. B. Fagan is sustaining one of the leading rôles in his virile and amusing comedy, "The Earth," which made such a pronounced success at the Kingsway Theatre in the days of Miss Lena Ashwell's management. "The Earth" is also full of interest to the general public, and on Monday night a large audience thoroughly enjoyed the biting satire and ceaseless flow of wit. Mr. Charles Rock furnishes a graphic and finished sketch of Sir Felix Janion, the great newspaper magnate. He has caught the spirit of the rôle to the full, and holds the audience in his grip by the masterfulness and power of his acting. The gentleness, dignity, and geniality of the Right Hon. Denziel Trevana, as portrayed by Mr. J. B. Fagan, creates the requisite contrast to the dominating personality of Janion. Mr. Fagan acts well, and reveals the possession of histrionic gifts of high quality. Miss Mary Grey is excellent as the Countess of Killone, acting with womanly sympathy throughout, and developing the necessary touch of strength when she counters the scoop of Janion with a threat of complete exposure. Mr. Walter Hewetson is very good as the profligate and bankrupt Earl of Killone; and Miss Cybel Wynne is well placed in the rôle of the cynical Lady Stunage. Mr. Hunter Nesbitt deserves the highest encomiums for his happily conceived impersonation of Michael Dickson, Janion's manager and jackal. It constitutes a fine thumbnail sketch. Mr. Wilton Ross makes a cultured and polished Roger Morrish, editor of "The Earth"; and Miss Pauline Hague successfully interprets the part of Miss Janion. Mr. Richard Hatteras impersonates Hector Stroude, Janion's ever-alert secretary, with considerable credit; and Mr. John Mason is admirable as Bent, Trevana's secretary. Mr. Charles Jamieson is an amusing Rev. Malcolm Mackenzie; and Mr. A. M. Letchner deserves mention as Robinson. The smaller rôles of Tupper and Parker are filled by Mr. N. Ireland and Mr. Henry Ford respectively. The play is artistically mounted and dressed. "The Earth" is preceded by a selection of songs by Miss Mary Grey, who on Monday gave a brilliant rendering of Tosti's "Good-bye."

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, WINDSOR.

On Monday, April 14, the Drama, entitled "A CHILD OF THE STREETS."

At this comfortable house this week a hearty welcome is given to Miss Dot Stephens and her company in "A Child of the Streets." The play is full of sensation and dramatically interesting, and a good combination does full justice to an excellent production, some good scenery and pretty dresses adding a pleasing touch of colour. Sir John Graham is safe in the hands of Mr. George Handel, who gives a powerful impersonation. As the villainous Lawrence Craigie Mr. Arthur Curzon acts with much discretion, speaking his lines with force. Another well-played part is that of Robert Wallace, by Mr. Valmour Shain, who is to be congratulated on his portrayal. Mr. Norman H. Tracy's able character sketch of Lieutenant Jack Ainsley carries conviction. Mr. Hugh Brady as Pomeroy Smith holds the attention of his audience throughout, and well supplies the comic element; his vocal items are also well rendered. Mr. George H. Hazlehurst smartly plays the part of Ezra Scroggie, and causes laughter. Mr. John Errol gives a capital performance of the restaurant proprietor, Oscar Van Dam, and Constable 214D is filled by Mr. Lewis Rae. Miss Dot Stephens plays with telling sympathy in the part of Doris Graham, and is warmly applauded for several well-delivered songs. As Gertrude Graham Miss Olga B. Hazlehurst has a part which suits her style admirably, and she scores every point possible. Good service is rendered by Miss Lily Annesley as Lorna Carstairs. Miss Polly Denville's pleasing personality does much to make the rôle of Selina Haddock a delightfully breezy one, whilst Little Cora Handle plays the part of Little Doris with wonderful skill for so young an artiste. Herr Paul Schafer continues to direct the efficient orchestra. The stage-management is under the careful supervision of Mr. T. Norman. The general-manager is Mr. George Hazlehurst. Friday evening was set apart for a complimentary benefit to Miss Dot Stephens, when, in addition to the usual programme, "Poor Jo" was announced to be played.

THE CATHOLIC STAGE GUILD.

A meeting of the Catholic Stage Guild, which was formed in 1911 for charitable and fraternal purposes in relation to the contingencies of the theatrical profession, was held on Thursday, the 10th inst., at the Manchester Gaiety Theatre, by permission of Miss Horniman. The Bishop of Salford (Dr. Casartelli) presided, his supporters including Miss Ethel St. Barbe (hon. secretary of the Guild), Mr. Joseph Keogh, Mr. Eric Graham, Mr. Mike Nono, Mr. J. Stephens Cranshaw, and Miss Ethelreda Taffe. In an interesting speech the Bishop made references to the ancient kinship existing between Church and stage, pointing out, in fact, that the earliest forms of dramatic art were directly the outcome and expression of the earliest forms of religion. In the Middle Ages in Europe mystery plays showed a divergence from the direct ritual of the Church, to a separate representation of the things taught and reverenced by the Church, though the objects were identical, and those who took part in the plays were frequently members of the clergy. These miracle plays were to be seen at times in abbeys and cathedrals, and were a considerable help to the Church in the promulgation of its teachings. Of course, there were many incipient forms of stage work of a purely secular kind, but the mystery plays were the true origin of the wonderful growth of the dramatic art of the present day. The tremendous scope of the modern theatre in its dealings with the social and religious life of the community gave it equally tremendous power for good or evil, and, recognising this, many of the clergy had devoted themselves wherever possible to the uplifting of the tone of the theatre, so that its influence should be for good. So far as the influence of the Catholic Stage Guild was concerned, its field of labour was a wide and important one, for the percentage of Catholics in the profession was astonishingly large. It should be the object of the Guild to establish a friendly bond between all these for their mutual welfare, with the assurance that the help and friendship of the Guild would be at hand when wanted.

Miss Ethel St. Barbe's (the hon. secretary) exposition of the work and development of the Guild was followed by encouraging remarks on the same subject by Mr. Joseph Keogh, Miss Ethelreda Taffe, Mr Mike Nono, and Mr. Eric Graham. Among other clerical speakers—Father Sebastian Gates, O.P., Father Henry Day, S.J., Father T. Kelly, S.J., and Father George Nicholson, C.SS.R.—Canon Sharrock of Salford Cathedral, commented on the gratifying circumstance that the half-past six Mass on Sunday morning in the cathedral was so largely attended by members of the music hall profession. The meeting was interesting and full of promise for the future good work of the Guild.

SPECIALS FROM THE PROVINCES.

"THE CONYNGHAMS."

Comedy, in Three Acts, by George Paston, Produced for the First Time at the Repertory, Liverpool, Monday, April 14.

Julian Rolfe ..... Mr. Algernon F. Greig
Rosie ..... Miss Ellinor Arup
Frida Conyngham ..... Miss Marie O'Neill
Eliza ..... Miss Mona Smith
Mrs. Fitzalan ..... Miss Eileen Thorndike
Mrs. Rolfe ..... Miss Aida Jenoure
Rufus Pagnall ..... Mr. Baliol Holloway
Major Fitzalan ..... Mr. Shiel Barry
Hugh Conyngham .... Mr. Norman McKeown
Mrs. Lewis ..... Miss Estelle Winwood
Mr. Rolfe ..... Mr. Wilfred E. Shine
Toby ..... Mr. Harold French
Mrs. Hollyer ..... Miss Fanny Olive
Brodie ..... Mr. J. A. Bodd
Albert Baxter ..... Mr. Richard Evans

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

This work, although written in capital style, is scarcely convincing. The story, briefly, is that the Conynghams are apparently an ideal couple, so far as married life goes. He is a model husband, devoted to his wife and two children, and she a considerate and loving partner, taking great interest in the welfare of other people. Suddenly the story gets about that Hugh Conyngham was formerly fascinated by a Mrs. Lewis, and he is cited as a co-respondent in a divorce suit. This results in the separation of husband and wife. During her retirement Mrs. Conyngham comes in contact with a young man in whom she is interested, and for a moment there is a danger of a love match between them. She, however, fights against her own feelings and sends him away. Her loneliness becoming unbearable, she decides to return to her husband and forget the cause of their separation. There is a mutual understanding.

Mr. Norman McKeown played the erring husband with artistic strength, and took advantage of the many opportunities offered. Miss Marie O'Neill was a sympathetic and charming Frida Conyngham, her acting making a strong impression. As Rufus Pagnall Mr. Baliol Holloway acquitted himself in fine style. Miss Estelle Winwood proved a sufficiently repugnant Mrs. Lewis, the cause of all the trouble. The bad-tempered Major Fitzalan was ably represented by Mr. Shiel Barry.

The comedy was staged very completely.

"THE HOME-COMING."

Play, in One Act, by Gertrude Robins, Produced for the First Time at Abbey Theatre, Dublin, on Thursday, April 10.

Ivan Loweski ..... Mr. Philip Guiry
Stephan ..... Mr. Sean Connelly
Paul Loweski ..... Mr. Farrell Pelly
Catherine Loweski ..... Miss Helen Moloney

The scheme of the play is a painfully tragic one. A much-loved son leaves his home and seeks his fortune in a foreign land. A score of years elapse and he returns to the scene of his boyhood, full of love and affection for his parents. They fail to recognise him, and he is afraid to tell them who he is lest they should "die of joy." So he prepares the way by pretending he is a stranger who knew their son in foreign parts. He shows them gold nuggets and notes for 10,000 roubles. The old mother thinks "that is the sum our Ivan said he would have to make before he came home." She wants her boy back. She sees a way to this end. "How?" asks her dull-witted husband. "Why, send him the 10,000 roubles." Kill the stranger while he sleeps in Ivan's bed. Rob him of the money and send it to their son. So, urged by the demon of cupidity, the father kills the stranger, and then, to his horror, discovers he has slain his own son.

The characters belong to the Russian peasantry, though they speak Abbey English. As regards the acting, all, under the circumstances, were particularly good. Miss Helen Moloney gives a fine rendering of the old woman who would stoop even to murder for love of her son, and her acting at the close, when she discovers the awful mistake and sees her own boy lying murdered, calls forth loud applause. Mr. Farrell Pelly gives a fine character study of the old father, while Mr. Philip Guiry makes a manly Ivan Loweski. As the servant Stephan, Mr. Sean Connolly makes the most of a small part. The play had a hearty reception, and Miss Robins' next theatrical venture will be awaited here with great interest.

"HOME RULE."

Comedy, in One Act, by Miss Judith Wogan, Produced for the First Time at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, on Friday, April 11.

George Broadly ..... Mr. S. W. Maddock
Dolly Broadly .... Miss Claire Wogan-Browne
Jeanne ..... Miss Judith Wogan

One of the most fashionable audiences that has ever graced the auditorium of the old Gaiety assembled at the matinée performance in aid of charity on Friday last, under the patronage of Her Excellency Countess Aberdeen. The entertainment consisted of two plays and a concert, but perhaps the tit-bit of the afternoon was the production of "Home Rule," a new play by a young and clever authoress, who, judging by her maiden effort, should prove a strong addition to the list of Irish playwrights.

The plot is not political, but purely domestic, and concerns the efforts of a young and worldly wife to persuade her stolid matter-of-fact husband to go to a fancy dress ball. The dialogue teems with quiet humour and smart epigram, which loses nothing in the hands (or mouths) of the actor and actresses. Miss Claire Wogan-Browne is delightfully refreshing as the vivacious young wife, whilst the authoress herself gives a charming character study of the Maid Jeanne. Mr. Maddock certainly deserves the title of Ireland's leading amateur, and his acting as the prosy husband contributes in no small degree to the success of the sketch. In "Home Rule" Miss Judith Wogan has undoubtedly secured a "winner," and the enthusiasm with which it was received should incite her to higher flights of dramatic art in the future.

The Marchioness of Headfort (née Rosie Boote) also appeared in a short melodramatic episode, "A Queen's Messenger," in which she was ably assisted by Major Owen-Lewis, D.S.O.

"THE HIGHWAYMAN."

A Comic Opera, in Two Acts, Written by the late Mr. M. J. Blatchford, Composed by Mr. Joseph Broadbent, Produced for the First Time on any Stage at the Theatre Royal, Halifax, on Monday, April 14.

Capt. Carstairs ..... Mr. E. W. Mitton
Sergt. Marrow ..... Mr. H. Peel
Samuel Applepip ..... Mr. G. L. Hanson
Jonathan Myrtle ..... Mr. C. D. Wilson
Jack Junket ..... Mr. Percy Eccles
Sergt. Fluff ..... Mr. Arthur Dixon
Timothy Bunnett ..... Mr. H. Spencer
Giles Ramshorn ..... Mr. R. H. Woodcock
Flora Myrtle ..... Miss Rosamund Clark
Alice Myrtle ..... Miss Lena Pickles
Grace Myrtle ..... Miss Baume

The scene is pastoral England, and the time the beginning of the nineteenth century. Flora, the daughter of Jonathan Myrtle, a widower, has promised her father to marry, on attaining her twenty-first birthday, his old friend, Samuel Applepip, on condition that the lover of her girlhood days (Jack Junket, who three years previously enlisted as a soldier) does not put in an appearance. In the meantime Flora has fallen in love with a handsome stranger, whom she had met in the woods. Owing to the fact that the handsome stranger had fought a duel with a gentleman of position, and wounded his man, he is in hiding and dare not disclose his identity. Flora and her cousin Alice, when discussing the qualities of the handsome stranger, are overheard by Sergeant Fluff, who immediately concludes that the stranger must be a notorious highwayman supposed to be hiding in the neighbourhood. Fluff's cross-examination of the two girls arouses their suspicions, and they agree to recognise the stranger, should he be caught, as Jack Junket. Jack, who has turned out a bibulous ne'er-do-well, turns up again unknown to the cousins and goes to the barn to have a sleep. The stranger is captured by Fluff and his two subordinates, and is immediately recognised by Flora and Alice as Jack Junket. The stranger falls in with the scheme, and all is apparently well—when the real Jack appears on the scene. The stranger is locked up in the barn for the night under the guard of the two rural constables, who, tiring of their vigil, fall asleep. Alice and Flora, arising at dawn the following morning and finding the constables asleep, release the stranger. Fluff and his two companions get on the track of the supposed highwayman. Sergeant Marrow with a squad of infantry appears on the scene with a letter for his captain, supposed to be staying in the village. Alice recognises, from the sergeant's description of his captain, the likeness to the handsome stranger, and agrees to deliver the letter—informing the captain that the trouble about the duel has blown over, and he is at liberty to assume his station in life. The handsome stranger appears and acknowledges he is Captain Carstairs, and asks the miller for the hand of his daughter, the sergeant, who has been making love to Alice, craving the hand of the Miller's niece.

Mr. Blatchford had previously written a number of ballads, and was one of the founders of "The Clarion." He was also the author of several books. He wrote two comic operas some years ago—"Phyllis" and "Sylvia"—which were produced locally for charities. Mr. Joseph Broadbent, the composer, is a local teacher of the pianoforte and voice production. He has composed several songs, but the music of "The Highwayman" is his biggest effort. The book is quite up to the average standard. The wit at times is bright and sparkling, and there is plenty of good, sound humour. The dialogue is well written. The music is good. Mr. Broadbent has written some fine numbers, notably "Since first this little hand" (duet), "When first a soldier I became" (song and trio), "When a hero bold" (trio), and "O, pretty maiden, tell me" (duet).

The opera has been produced by amateurs, coached by Mr. G. Edward Hall. Miss Rosamund Clark, though somewhat lacking in stage experience, did well as Flora. She has a fine soprano voice, and used it with telling effect. Mr. H. Peel is good as Sergeant Marrow, and he, too, has a good voice. Mr. Arthur Dixon made the most of his opportunities as Sergeant Fluff. Mr. Percy Eccles (an old stager at amateur work—this is his third appearance in amateur opera within the space of seven months) was undoubtedly one of the successes of the night as Jack Junket. His wonderful adaptability, his free-and-easy manner, and "comfortable" stage presence suits the character of Jack to a nicety. His fine baritone voice was also heard to distinct advantage in the tuneful rendering of the songs, duets, and trios allotted to the part.

The opera is handsomely staged and dressed.

"The Highwayman" has been under consideration for production at a West End theatre, and also by the managing-director of one of the large provincial controlling syndicates.

"CINDERS ON SKATES."

Pantomime, in Six Scenes, by Maurice C. Lee, Produced for the First Time at the Coliseum, Kettering, on Monday, April 14.

Chrystal ..... Miss Kitty Rafferty
Baron No Oof ..... Mr. Byron Douglas
Wilhelmina ..... Mr. Jack Darby
Florentina ..... Mr. Jack McLester
Buttons ..... Mr. Jack Francis
Fairy Queen ..... Miss E. Rafferty
Nida ..... Miss Helen Drew
Barnegie ..... Mr. Jackson Hylton

This is an adaptation of the old nursery tale of Cinderella brought up to date, as is evidenced by the hero being an American millionaire of the name of Barnegie in place of the Prince, and the substitution of a skating-rink carnival for the inevitable ball at the Palace. The scenery is very pleasing to the eye, and the dresses are attractive and artistic. The dialogue is bright and up to date, and the incidental music pretty. The popular songs introduced are well selected, and admirably rendered. The few dull moments will, no doubt, soon disappear when the company get into their stride.

Miss Kitty Rafferty is a charming Chrystal, and is the possessor of a sweet voice, all the numbers allotted her being heartily applauded. Messrs. Darby and McLester are very amusing as the Two Ugly Sisters, and Mr. Jack Francis works hard and successfully as Buttons. Mr. Byron Douglas is all that can be desired as the Baron, and Mr. Jackson Hylton appears to advantage as Barnegie, and contributes several vocal items which are highly appreciated. Some exceedingly clever skating is introduced in the Rink scene by Mr. A. A. Lennie and Messrs. Darby and McLester.

REAL WATER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—I really wonder what theatrical people nowadays consider a novelty? I am induced to ask the question by the statements of the manager and stage-manager of the London Opera House concerning the postponement of the announced Revue last Saturday.

The manager says:—"To produce the Revue without the lake of real water on the stage would be like presenting the tragedy of 'Hamlet' with the Prince of Denmark left out." His stage-manager says:—"He has been producing for twenty-six years, and this is the first time his work has had to be postponed."

But is a lake of real water on the stage a novelty?

In October, 1886, a lake of real water was presented on the stage of the Standard Theatre in the drama, "A Dark Secret." In August, 1887, the year the stage-manager says he began producing, "A Dark Secret" was played at the Walnut-street Theatre, Philadelphia, and later in New York.

A lake of real water was presented at the Grand Theatre, Islington, April 3, 1893, in the drama, "No Man's Land." Both these pieces have been played at fourteen London theatres, and for twenty-seven and twenty years respectively in the provinces, and are still on the road.

"A Dark Secret" was played quite recently at the Middlesex with a lake of real water.

The lake of real water has for years been represented in Brussels, Antwerp, Ghent, Berlin, Amsterdam, Hamburg, Paris, Vienna, and all over the Continent, either by Mr. J. M. Polini or myself, and yet it is considered such a novelty at the London Opera House that its non-appearance would be regarded as the absence of the Prince of Denmark from the tragedy of "Hamlet."

I do not know what the managers who are touring my dramas will think; but it seems to me that if a manager can claim copyright in the part of a policeman introduced into "East Lynne," what is my position with the Prince of Denmark taken out of my "Hamlet?"—Yours faithfully,

JOHN DOUGLASS.

Green Room Club, 46, Leicester-square, W.C.

A CHAT WITH MR. ALFRED DENVILLE.

An "Era" representative had a pleasant chat on Wednesday afternoon with Mr. Alfred Denville in his dressing-room at the Olympia, Liverpool, on the subject of "The Miracle," which has proved an overwhelming success in Liverpool.

Naturally, Mr. Denville was delighted to talk about the visit. "It surpassed our wildest dreams," he said, as he laughingly wiped the grease paint from his face after leaving the stage, "and is some indication of what is before us during the tour which is booked indefinitely.'

"We have toured 'The Miracle' for several months with about 100 in the cast, but Liverpool was the first place to have it on the present big scale. There are about 330 artistes, along with 24 horses, mules and goats. Since I first ventured out with the show we visited all the number one theatres in England and Scotland. With the exception of three places beyond the border," continued Mr. Denville, "we did exceedingly well, but at the towns referred to the Presbyterians gave us a regular boycott.

"We proposed to do the thing on a big scale, and accordingly selected the vast and beautiful Liverpool Olympia, with its immense water ring. Our intention was to remain only two weeks, but the rush that quickly set in showed we had miscalculated, and we were unable to get hold of only an extra week. I never remember such business outside of London. And a special feature about the thing is the good class of audiences we have had. Everybody watched the show with a depth of interest that was surprising, and not a single word of complaint has been heard. I feel that Liverpool could easily stand us for six weeks,

MR. ALFRED DENVILLE.

if not two months. The accounts of our success at Liverpool have been the means of lengthy tours being arranged. An inquiry has come from America, and another from South Africa, a big syndicate in our latest colony having made an offer. Mr. Oswald Stoll has been one of the earliest to engage 'The Miracle,' which will visit Chatham and Bristol, while it is intended to put up twelve weeks in London. We hope to return to Liverpool in the autumn, when I am sure more big business will come our way. I am about to launch two more companies in order to cope with the demand. I make no changes in my cast, if possible, and with the exception of two I have with me all the original performers. They are an excellent all-round combination, the three principals being Miss Bertha Clifton (the Nun), Miss Patricia Bostock (the Madonna), and Miss Hilda Playfair (the principal soloist), about whose singing there have been general comments.

"As for Miss Playfair," said Mr. Denville, "she made her first appearance as a child with Sir Henry Irving when he played 'Robespierre.' She has been Fairy Queen at the 'Lane,' a special part having been written for her. She first entered upon serious drama as Moya in 'The Shaughraun' at the King's Theatre, Sunderland, and I was so struck with her performance that I induced her to come with 'The Miracle.' I need hardly say that I am quite satisfied with my selection.

"As for myself," said Mr. Denville, in reply to a query, "I am a Nottingham man, and was born in the profession, being six weeks old when I was carried on in 'The Woman in Red.' For many years I was associated with pantomime, which class of entertainment I often produced as well as pageants, so even such a stupendous task as 'The Miracle' comes easy. It was under the late Sir Augustus Harris I learnt the tricks of the trade, and I don't think there was ever an abler man in his particular line. During my connection with the stage I have worked in portables, fit-ups, and every class of theatre, music hall, and circus; while my repertory has even included that of chambermaid. I was comedian at the old Britannia when only fourteen years of age, and played children's parts with John L. Toole and Barry Sullivan."

"THE DESERTED RIVALS."

A Phantasy, by Christine Connell, Produced at the Lyceum Club on Monday, April 14, 1913.

Cupid ..... Miss Harrison
Flake White ..... Mr. Brian
Mr. Oof ..... Mr. Reginald Denham
Araminta ..... Miss Martha Vigo

Following a dinner held at the Lyceum Club by the Arts and Crafts Club on Monday evening, Christine Connell presented her new phantasy, entitled "The Deserted Rivals." It is a charming little play, and the production met with deserved appreciation. Seldom have we seen a play of this description possessing such a concise plot, ready wit, and general effect. Araminta is a simple, country maid, ignorant of love, but ready to lose her heart to the first plausible male who, sincerely or otherwise, may pay her his attentions. The first to woo her is the artist, Flake White, and it is through this character that the authoress gently chides the eccentricities of modern art. During the absence of the artist, the maid transfers her affections to Mr. Oof, a pushful money-maker from London. Flake White returns, and the rivals fight. During the combat, Cupid impresses Araminta with the fact that the men are too concerned with their respective worldly interests to make her really happy, and she leaves them to patch up their quarrel as best they may.

Miss Martha Vigo acted Araminta with distinctive charm; whilst Mr. Brian was responsible for no little humour as the artist. Mr. Reginald Denham's Mr. Oof, à la G. P. H., was not the least pleasing feature of the performance; and Miss Harrison maintained the general excellence as Cupid.

Mr. George Fry, son of Mr. G. A. Fry, was married on the 10th inst. to Miss Rhoda Bennett, of Mr. Harry Roxbury's pantomime company, at St. James's Church, Pentonville. Mr. Fry was a member of Mr. Herbert Ralland's "Girl in the Train" company.

DEATH OF MR. W. J. HOLLOWAY.

It is with regret that we note the death of Mr. W. J. Holloway, the well-known legitimate actor, who passed away on April 6, at his residence, Langroyd House, Larkhall-rise, Clapham Junction. At an early age the deceased gentleman accompanied his parents to Australia, where he was originally trained for an engineer. He, however, felt the call of the stage, and, meeting William Hoskins, a friend of Henry Irving and at one time a comrade of Phelps at Sadler's Wells (he played Lucullus to Samuel's Timon in 1861), obtained an engagement at Melbourne. Excellent experience in support of leading stars made of young Holloway a reliable actor, and his reputation was sufficiently great to justify him entering into management of the Theatre Royal, Melbourne, in 1878. He toured the Colonies. He especially devoted himself to Shakespearean productions, and also appeared in "Ingomar," a favourite character, "Pygmalion and Galatea," and other well-known dramas. He came to England in 1884 for a holiday, and on returning to Australia resumed his profession with so much ardour that in 1839 he was prostrated through overwork, and returned to England. Subsequently he toured South Africa with a powerful repertory company, arriving in Johannesburg during the Jameson Raid, December, 1895. He undertook a second South African tour in 1898, playing "The Sign of the Cross" throughout the country; also appearing as Richard III., Richelieu, Hamlet, &c. In 1905 he made a third South African tour, taking with him, among other plays, "The Prisoner of Zenda" and "The Three Musketeers." His most notable appearance in this country was at the Lyceum with Henry Irving in 1892, when he supported the chief as the Earl of Kent in the famous revival of "King Lear." When Irving was suddenly indisposed, Mr. Holloway took up the part of Lear at three hours' notice. He was manager of Terry's in 1894, producing at that theatre on Aug. 30 W. Lestocq and E. M. Robson's farce, in three acts, entitled "The Foundling," the chief parts being played by Huntley Wright and Ellis Jeffreys. In 1897 he was associated with the production at the Duke of York's of "Lost, Stolen, or Strayed," afterwards called "A Day in Paris," a musical farce adapted from the French by J. Cheever Goodwin, the music being by Woolson Morse. Mr. Holloway was in his 71st year.

THE OLD PRESTON THEATRE.

The Preston Theatre Royal closed as the home of legitimate drama last Saturday night, having been sold to a syndicate, who intend to reopen it as a picture palace early in May. The house has had a remarkable history, dating back 111 years. It was built in 1802 by a body of shareholders, who had the privilege of free admission by silver "passes," which were transferable. There are still in existence, highly prized by their fortunate possessors, playbills of the earlier performances over a hundred years ago. The house was taken over by Mr. Parkinson, a well-known operatic tenor in 1869, who greatly improved the building, and added a new façade. He disposed of it to a local building society some years later, and the house had a somewhat chequered career about that time. In 1882 it was again re-embellished by a new lessee, and reopened when the late King Edward (then Prince of Wales) attended incognito as a guest of the Guild Mayor (the late Lord Derby), at one of the midnight performances at which Nellie Farren, Kate Vaughan, and Arthur Williams appeared.

On the playbills of the Theatre Royal appear many names of world-wide fame in drama, opera, and comedy. It was fitting that for the closing performances such sterling Thespians as Julia Neilson and Fred Terry should appear, and that "Sweet Nell of Old Drury" was chosen as the fare. The old house was packed with an enthusiastic audience, who gave the two such a reception that Fred Terry had to respond, and in doing so the hesitant quaver of his utterance showed that the unique scene had moved him mightily. "I thank you for your glorious welcome," he said. "We have long wished to play to you, and your welcome has been so splendid, so glorious and so helpful, that we wish to come to you again. But, alas! you are going to do away with your theatre. (Cries of "Shame.") It is such a sweet little theatre, with such a splendidly generous audience, that it seems a pity to let it go from you. Surely a town that can produce an audience so delightfully appreciative as this one to-night can maintain a theatre that presents the best material of the legitimate stage. At any rate, Miss Neilson and myself hope we may, a little later on, come amongst you once more and receive again the magnificent welcome you have given us."

CROYDON REPERTORY SEASON.

A highly satisfactory send-off to the Croydon Repertory season at the Grand Theatre was given on Monday with the production of Elizabeth Baker's four-act play, entitled "Chains," originally produced at the Duke of York's Theatre. The directors, Messrs. Keble Howard and Dick Adams, may be complimented upon the special scenery, which has been prepared in the theatre, and the lighting and furnishing, every detail of which has received the most careful attention. Before the rise of the curtain telegrams of congratulation which had been received from many well-known dramatists, actors, actresses, and managers were read from the stage by Mr. Dick Adams; and a brief address on the theme of the play and the author's treatment of it was delivered by Mr. Keble Howard. An excellent all-round company has been selected, who did full justice to their work on Monday and will evidently render yeoman service during the six weeks' season. Miss Pearl Keats' impersonation of Lily Wilson was remarkably clever and full of merit. She played with plenty of confidence, and her winsome and entrancing manner enabled her to hold her audience from first to last. Mr. Eille Norwood enacted the rôle of Charles Wilson in his usual meritorious style, proving that he had closely studied the part. His performance had many good points. Mr. John Napper was easy and natural in the character of Tennant, and acted with judgment. Miss Madge McIntosh played with her accustomed vigour and ability, and easily overcame the difficulties of the rôle of Maggie Massey. Mr. James Gelderd hit off to a nicety the jovial Morton Leslie, and his spice of comedy was much relished. Miss Nora Kessler made a neat and bewitching Sybil; and she had a capital partner to work with in Mr. Richard Edridge, a quaint Percy Massey. Mr. A. E. Filmer was commendable as Fenwick; Mr. Stanley Lathbury gave a capital character-sketch of Mr. Massey; Miss Alison Gillies made the most of her opportunities as Mrs. Massey; and Mr Willian. Stack acted carefully in the part of Foster.

The following were the telegrams read by Mr. Adams before the performance:—

Good luck, good fortune, to Croydon Repertory Theatre. Good plays, good work, good management. Goodbye.—ELLEN TERRY.

Best and most confident wishes for success of your interesting undertaking. I wish I could be with you.—IRENE VANBRUGH.

I sincerely trust the Croydon public will support your public-spirited efforts on behalf of drama in England.—IAN MALCOLM.

Hearty good wishes.—CYRIL MAUDE.

All success to your enterprise. — WILLIAM KENDAL.

Heartiest good wishes for your success. — GRANVILLE BARKER.

May your repertory theatre have all the success it so richly deserves is the sincere wish of GEORGE ALEXANDER.

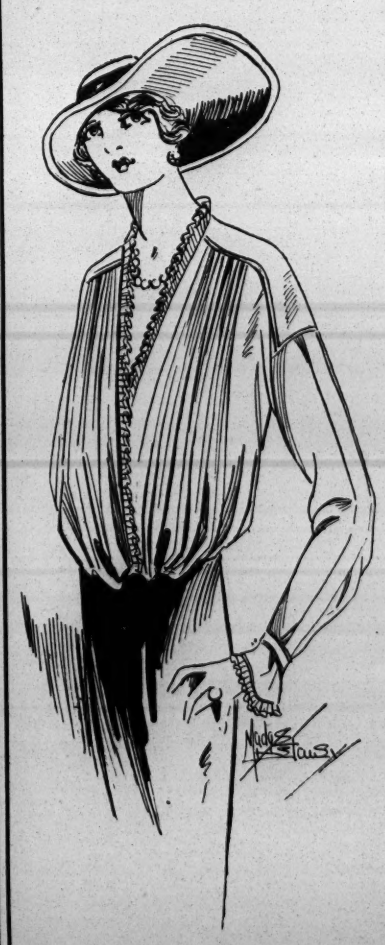
Accept my warm wishes for the success of your campaign. I hope the support you receive will be such as to encourage you to continue your operations. You are rendering good service to the theatrical cause.—ARTHUR PINERO.

Cordially welcome invasion of greater London by repertory principle; wish enterprise all success.—WILLIAM ARCHER.

My good wishes for your success, both artistically and financially. — A. E. F. HORNIMAN.

THE GERMAN THEATRE CO. AT COSMOPOLIS.

The German Theatre Co., in spite of the handicap of changes in the cast, gave two very good performances of Schönthan and Ellfeld's symbolical play, "Renaissance," at the Cosmopolis Theatre on Saturday last. The sixteenth century atmosphere of the play was well suggested, and Fräulein Lena Wirth as the high-spirited boy, Vittorino, acquitted herself excellently, though slight exception might be taken to the prolonged frozen stiffness of her attitude after the enlightening kiss of the passionate model, Mirra. Fräulein Rita Mann well suggested the untrained, impulsive nature of this bold "daughter of the people." Fräulein Anne Stillgar, on account of the illness of Fräulein Christie Fluhrer, took up, at very short notice, the part of the Marchesa Gennara, of which she gave a smooth and finished reading; Fräulein Elsa Lessing played charmingly as the girl, Coletta; Herr Erich Nadler was a benevolent Father Confessor; Herr Heinrich Victor put a good deal of character into his acting of the narrow-minded tutor, Severino; and Herr Theodor Krauss was quite adequate as the painter, Silvio, in love with the Marchesa.



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THEATRICAL GOSSIP

Mr. George Edwardes, though he has not been so well of late, is actively preparing for the production of "The Marriage Market," at Daly's Theatre. The piece, the scene of which is in California, has been adapted by Miss Gladys Unger, and the company will include Messrs. G. P. Huntley, W. H. Berry, and Robert Michaelis, and Miss Gertie Millar.

The surviving members of the committee of the D'Oyly Carte Memorial (Messrs. Basil Hood, Herbert Brook, G. A. Richardson, and F. Cellier) have handed over to the Royal Academy of Music the balance of the money in hand in order to provide for the education of four pupils in the operatic class of the academy.

Mr. H. J. Mackinder has secured first place on Wednesday for his motion about the National Theatre, which is thus worded: "That, in the opinion of this House, there should be established in London a National Theatre, to be vested in trustees and to be assisted by the State, for the performance of the plays of Shakespeare and of other dramas of recognised merit."

At a meeting of the Court of the King George's Pension Fund for Actors and Actresses (1911), held on April 11, it was unanimously decided to grant an annuity of £100 to Mr. Harry Paulton, the distinguished actor, in recognition of his services to the theatrical profession. Mr. Paulton made his first London appearance as Blueskin in the burlesque of "The Idle 'Prentice," at the old Strand Theatre, and his career has been a full and popular one.

To-day, at St. George's, Hart-street, Bloomsbury, Miss Phyllis Relph will be married to Mr. Lionel A. W. Atwill, the able impersonator of the engineer in "Milestones" at the Royalty. Miss Relph, as everyone is aware, is very pretty, and has made her mark in her profession by her clever performance of the part of Margaret Knox in "Fanny's First Play." It is to be hoped that she will not leave the stage on her marriage, as she is one of our most promising young actresses.

Puccini has come specially from Pisa to see Forbes-Robertson, in "The Light That Failed" at Drury Lane Theatre, and has expressed his great delight with the famous actor's portrayal of the blind artist. Puccini is considering Kipling's play as the subject for the libretto of his next opera. So great has been the demand for admission to see this and the other plays in Forbes-Robertson's present repertory, that he has decided to make no change except in the days of performance during the next fortnight, after which he will appear for the first time in London as Shylock in "The Merchant of Venice." He has just received a cable from Mr. William Faversham saying that the latter will sail on May 6 to play Iago to Forbes-Robertson's Othello at Drury Lane.

Mr. Faversham was born and bred in England. He was educated at Chigwell Grammar School, served for a time in the Warwickshire Yeomanry, and, after studying with the late Miss Carlotta Leclerc, made his first stage appearance in 1885 at the Vaudeville as Sugden in "Retained for the Defence."

Miss Ethel Irving has arranged to revive Mr. Somerset Maugham's company, "Lady Frederick," at the Globe Theatre on Saturday week, with herself and Mr. C. M. Lowne in their original parts.

The question of theatre queues was raised in the House of Commons on Monday by Mr. Newman, who asked the Home Secretary whether in view of the recent legal decision that they are an obstruction, he proposed to instruct the police authorities in future to disperse them. Mr. McKenna said the legal decision was being appealed against. When the final judgment was given in the matter he would be prepared to reply to the question.

Mr. Victor Wiltshire, who was severely wounded in a stage duel in a wordless sketch called "A la Mort," at the Southampton Palace Theatre, in February last year, will return to the stage and give a series of matinées of "Julius Cæsar" at the Court Theatre, on Tuesday, April 29, Friday, May 2, and Tuesday, May 6. Mr. Wiltshire was for some years with Mr. F. R. Benson, and in 1909, 1910, and 1911 was a member of Sir Herbert Tree's company at His Majesty's. Among the principal members of the cast of "Julius Cæsar" at the Court will be:—Mr. Basil Gill as Brutus, Mr. Godfrey Tearle as Cassius, Mr. James Berry as Marcus Antonius, Miss Ethelwyn Arthur-Jones as Calphurnia, Miss Kitty Richmer as Lucius, and Miss Marion Plarr as Portia.

The suffragettes pursue their propaganda even into our auditoriums. Mr. Birrell went to the Kingsway Theatre on Saturday afternoon to see "The Great Adventure," and he was addressed at the close of the performance by Miss Nancy Lightman, a member of the Women's Social and Political Union, from a seat in the pit. "Why don't you resign from this Government?" she asked. "How can an honourable man be a member of a Government that behaves in this way? You know perfectly well that the 'Cat and Mouse' Bill is absolutely useless."

Miss Marie Tempest opened the Simple Life Exhibition at the Caxton Hall, Westminster, on Tuesday, when much amusement was caused by the "ideal husband" competition. The angry wife was represented by Miss Kitty Carteret, and a number of men impersonated husbands coming home late with excuses. Many of these obtained their certificates as "models," one propitiating his spouse with tickets for the opera, and the other proposing a dinner at the Carlton. Before beat two of the "model husband" competition, thirty guests reclined on the floor and discussed a "simple life" menu, including oranges, bananas, mixed nuts, tomato paste sandwiches, and malted milk. During the meal some pretty dances were done by Miss Jennifer, Miss Kasberg, and Miss Daphne Eiloart.

Miss Horniman's company from the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, will return to London for a season of three weeks, commencing on Whit Monday, at the Court Theatre. During this short stay six plays will be staged: "The Whispering Well," by F. H. Rose, with music by Mr. J. H. Foulds; "Jane Clegg," by St. John G. Ervine; "The Pigeon," by John Galsworthy; "Nan," John Masefield's great play; "Elaine," by Harold Chapin; and "Prunella," by Laurence Housman and Granville Barker. There will also be several one-act plays given, some of them for the first time: "The Dream Child," by W. Oliphant Down; "Complaints," by Hamer Clegg; "The Woman Who Sold Herself," by W. F. Casey; "Miss Tassey," by Elizabeth Baker; "The Little Stone House," by George Calderon. Of the plays that are new to London, one which should cause much interest is "The Whispering Well," a Lancashire dream play, written by a Manchester author, with music by a Manchester composer, which met with success on its recent production at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester. Other new plays are "Jane Clegg," by St. John G. Ervine; and "Elaine," by Harold Chapin.

The annual meeting of the Actors' Church Union will be held in His Majesty's Theatre, by kind permission of Sir Herbert Tree, on Tuesday, June 10, at 2.30 p.m. The chair will be taken by the Lord Bishop of Winchester, and at the conclusion of the meeting a reception will be held by Sir Herbert.

The advertisement which appeared in our last issue for the heirs of "Benjamin Webster, Manager, Adelphi Theatre, London, 1868," concerns a legal action in the United States about the rights of production of one of the late dramatist's plays, "Monte Cristo," which, according to the "Dictionary of National Biography," was "damned in October, 1868." The heirs are wanted to establish the connection between that play, which someone wants to adapt to the modern requirements of the film producer, and the late Benjamin Webster's legatees.

Mr. Ben Pareezer, the sole proprietor of the Marina Theatre, Lowestoft, has consented to offer himself as a candidate for the East Ward of the Lowestoft Municipal Corporation. Mr. Pareezer has considerable experience in the management of large undertakings, for, in addition to the Marina Theatre, he also has the New Royal, King's Lynn; the Empire Theatre, Southend; the Hippodrome Theatre, Sheerness; the Theatre Royal, Hyde, and the Grand Theatre, Rawtenstall.

Sir George Alexander's company played a flying matinée of "Open Windows" at the Prince's Theatre, Bristol, on Tuesday, giving a very successful performance, and returned to London in time for the "show" at the St. James's in the evening.

Mr. W. E. Holloway starts a season in South Africa on May 26, in conjunction with B. and F. Wheeler, Ltd. His repertoire will include "Milestones," "Butterfly on the Wheel," "Get-Rich-Quick Wallingford," and "Ready Money." The strong company, which sails by the Grantully Castle on April 25, includes Messrs. Clarence Blakiston, Alfred Mansfield, Cecil Humphries, Charles Brucester, H. B. Waring, Francis Roberts, Compton Coutts, and the Misses Gladys Mason, Amy Elstob, Laura Lawrence, Muriel Mason, Margaret Boyd, and Russell Spiers. Mr. Theo Ward is the conductor and Mr. Robert Grey the business-manager.

Mr. Cecil Humphreys, who is joining Mr. Holloway's South African company, playing, among other parts, Collingwood in "A Butterfly on the Wheel," Blackie in "Get-Rich-Quick Wallingford," and Arthur Preece in "Milestones," sails from Southampton Saturday next per R.M.S. Grantully Castle.

Mr. and Mrs. William Maclaren (Miss Lily C. Bandmann) finish their eighth year of tour with the late Wilson Barrett's "Claudian" to-night at the Opera House, Burton-on-Trent. This well-known play has been "presented" by them 1,670 times, and Mr. Maclaren has appeared in the title part at every performance. In the coming autumn Mr. and Mrs. Maclaren will again tour "Claudian," also the ever-popular Adelphi drama "Proof."

The Advance Players will present, at Cosmopolis, on Friday afternoon, a new and original play in three acts, entitled "The Hour and the Woman." The cast will include Messrs. Laurence J. Clarence, Harold Holland, Leslie Rea, Reginald Hargreaves, Percy Vernon, P. Fender, and Misses Maude Marshall, Christine Rayne, Liolet Russell, Edith Carter, Irene Greenleaf, and Kate Cutler. The play will be produced under the direction of Laurence J. Clarence, and will be preceded by "Luigi's Wife," by Mrs. de la Pasture.

Miss Henrietta Schrier has been engaged by the director of the repertory season at the Theatre Royal, Halifax, which commences on May 5, to play the leading rôles in a list which includes "His Excellency the Governor," "In the Soup," "Ours," "Forget-Me-Not," and "The Laughter of Fools."

The newly-installed stock company at the Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool, has walked straight into the good graces of the playgoers of the north end; and Mr. Montgomery, in consequence of this success, is now able to make some announcements regarding the future. Within the next few days he will allot the parts in a number of plays. One is an entirely new costume drama; the second is "The Shaughraun"; and Mr. Montgomery promises, about Whitsuntide, an elaborate revival of "Othello." Thus it will be seen that Mr. Montgomery is to be as good as his word in the matter of variedness and interest of programme. Next week the attraction is to be Mr. C. Watson Mill's play, "A Wrecker of Men." A Wednesday matinée is still the rule at the Rotunda.

The Theatre in Eyre will produce a new play, by Mr. C. E. Montague, "A Hind Let Loose," at Cosmopolis on Tuesday. The cast includes Mr. James Berry, Mr. Edward Rigby, Mr. Ashton Pearse, Mr. Bertram Forsyth, Mr. Charles Vane, Mr. E. A. Warburton, Mr. Howard Rose, and Miss Ellen O'Malley.

Mr. Alfred Wareing announces the last week of his repertory season at the Royalty Theatre, Glasgow. On Monday he will give Arthur Schnitzler's "Light o' Love," and a new play, by Mr. Kenelm Foss, "The Average Man." Each play is in three acts.

Miss Florence Ray underwent last week a serious operation at a nursing home in Beaumont-street, Portland-place. Her doctors have expressed themselves as being well pleased with the result, and her strength is well maintained.

A meeting of the committee of the Touring Managers' Association was held on the 11th inst. Present: Mr. Wentworth Croke (in the chair), Mr. William Giffard, Mr. Leslie Owen, Mr. A. Bertram, Mr. G. Carlton Wallace, Mr. Frank Weathersby, Mr. W. Muskerry-Tilson, and Mr. Montgomery Martin (secretary). An estimate from a firm of cartage contractors for the cartage of members' scenery and baggage was accepted, and the secretary was requested to notify members. A letter was received from a member reporting a manager for touring his play under another name, and the secretary was directed to send the papers to the solicitor to deal with the matter. A letter was received from the National Health Insurance Commission in reference to supers.

The Manchester University Literary Circle will perform "Pompey the Great" at the beginning of the Easter term. The piece will be produced by Mr. J. Shelley. Mr. Masefield has not only given permission to perform his play without fee, but he has also supplied an amended version of the piece with a new third act, which up to the present has neither been printed nor performed. Dr. Keighley will supervise the incidental music.

"The Chaperon" will make his bow—for it is a male chaperon—at the Strand on Saturday next, and will be supported by a company of undoubted strength. The cast of Messrs. Jocelyn Brandon and Frederick Arthur's farce consists of Messrs. Cyril Keightley, Lawrence Robbins, E. Dagnall, M. R. Morand, Howard Sturge, Edward Irwin, J. Parish Robertson, and Maurice Edmonds, Misses Ethel Dane, Helen Haye, Ada King, Mary Dibley, and Violet Graham.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier will not at present give his intended revival of "The Arm of the Law," the prosperity of "The Greatest Wish" at the Garrick being so pronounced that it will occupy the bill until Baron Henri de Rothschild's new play, "Crœsus," shall be ready for production soon after Whitsuntide. To-morrow (Sunday) Mr. Bourchier is due at Leeds to deliver his lecture, "Some Reflections on the Drama—and Shakespeare," to the local Playgoers' Society. The same interesting lecture will be used by Mr. Bourchier to open the Festival at Stratford-on-Avon on Monday afternoon, but he will be back at the Garrick in the evening for his performance in "The Greatest Wish."

"The Inferior Sex" finishes its run at the Comedy this evening, and will be succeeded by Mr. John Galsworthy's strong play, "Strife," which will be revived on May 3. Mr. Norman McKinnel has been secured for his original part of John Anthony, and Mr. Kenneth Douglas will replace Mr. Dennis Eadie in that of John Wilder.

Miss Jean Sterling Mackinlay's British folk-lore ballads have been much enjoyed at two matinées this week, Wednesday and Friday, at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, the audiences being delighted by the charming and unaffectedly original way in which they were rendered. Mr. Harcourt Williams also contributed several entertaining recitals.

The Pioneer Players, under the direction of Miss Edith Craig, will give their fifth and last performance at the King's Hall, Covent Garden, on Sunday, May 18, when three new one-act plays by dramatists of three nationalities—German, Italian, and English—will be produced. These are "The Last Visit," by Hermann Sudermann; "Mese Mariano" ("The Month of Mary"), by Salvatore di Giacomo, and "The Great Day," by Cecil Fisher. Special interest attaches to "Mese Mariano," the first play of this most original poet and playwright to be introduced to an English audience, having been specially translated from the Neapolitan dialect for the production.

On the 28th inst. at the New Rehearsal Theatre, Maiden-lane, will be presented some entirely new playlets, including "The Origin of Species," by Richard Maurice, which will be produced by D. Elliot Watson; "The Sunlight Way," by Wilfrid Stephens; "The Decoy," by Neilson Morris; and "Snatched from the Grave," by J. Marriott Hodgkins. In addition to these, Mr. Alfred Moore, described as "the tenor with a phenomenal tenor voice, possessing an almost unknown top note," will sing.

The name of the new comic opera announced by Mr. J. B. Mullholland for the week commencing April 28 at his King's Theatre, Hammersmith, has been changed from "The Queen's Portrait" to "The Maid of Memphis."

Mr. Percy B. Broadhead, of W. H. Broadhead and Sons, Manchester, who own a large number of Lancashire theatres and music halls, was married on Saturday, at Torver Church, Coniston, to Miss May Wildman, of Blackpool. The happy pair are staying at Coniston for the honeymoon.

Mr. Hamilton Revelle has just returned to England from America, after undergoing a serious operation for appendicitis, which forced him to leave the cast of "Kismet" in his second season with that play. He is forbidden by his surgeon to act again this season, so has come home for a rest at Elm-grove, Hampton-on-Thames.

Herr Max Reinhardt is going to supply the masses of Berlin with a theatre at popular prices. He will convert the Circus Schumann into a big playhouse, giving sixty theatrical performances in the season which begins in October. The Circus Schumann lies in the centre of the city and near to a large working class suburb.

The annual service of the Actors' Church Union will take place at All Saints', Margaret-street, to-morrow, when the Rev. A. V. Magee, vicar of St. Mark's, Hamilton-terrace, will preach.

The Juvenile Rehearsal Company will make its first appearance on Sunday at Clavier Hall at a performance given by members of the Rehearsal Company for the New Premises Fund of the Arts and Dramatic Club. A lengthy programme will include "The Toast," a comedy by A. W. Davidson; and "King René's Daughter." In the casts are Miss Christine Silver, Miss Nell du Maurier, Miss Dorothy Dale, Miss Elaine Goode, and Mr. Clive Currie.

We regret to announce the death, on Wednesday, at the residence of her sister, Mrs. V. Southgate, 136, Ashley-gardens, S.W., of Mrs. Beatrice Angela Pryce Hamer (Cecil Cromwell), eldest daughter of Mrs. Angela Gould Pym, of Boston, U.S.A., and Captain W. H. Pym, R.N., who served in the Crimean war, was a Knight of the Legion of Honour, and bore the Order of the Medjidieh, and the Crimean medal. Mrs. Pryce Hamer appeared as Paula in the "Second Mrs. Tanqueray," and subsequently played the Queen in "Hamlet" at the Lyceum with Mr. Forbes-Robertson. She was for many years with Sir Henry Irving and Miss Ellen Terry, and toured successfully with "Sapho" and other plays. The Pym family is one of the oldest in England, dating back as far as 1120, and Miss Cromwell was the first of her line to go on the stage. She leaves a son, Mr. Murray Carrington Pryce Hametr, a member of Mr. Benson's Co.

"Typhoon" has "caught on" at the Haymarket. Among those present this week have been Lord and Lady Howard de Walden, the Marquis of Granby, H.H. the Ranee of Sarawak, Lady Horner, Lady Mond, Lady Tree, and General Sir Robert P. Baden-Powell.

A new one-act play, entitled "His Honeymoon," by Mr. G. W. Clifton, the manager of a local bank in Bury, will be produced at the Theatre Royal, Bury, on Monday, in front of "Hindle Wakes." Mr. Colston Mansell and Miss Madge Trenchard will be in the cast.

"Her Side of the House," by Mr. Lechmere Worrall and Miss Atté Hall, is now going very strongly at the Aldwych. There has been one important change in the cast since the first night. Mr. Godfrey Tearle, having joined Miss Ethel Warwick at the Little Theatre, the part of Lord Arlington was undertaken on Monday night, for the first time, by Mr. Arthur Scott Craven, whose impersonation is exceedingly interesting. He lays particular stress on the brilliant, polished man-of-the-world side of Lord Arlington's character, and in this way he gets an excellent contrasting effect when the man's deeper feelings are called into play. Mr. Craven is an actor of great versatility, and his undoubted talent, in conjunction with his handsome appearance and charm of manner, should place him in a high position at the head of his profession.

The mass meeting arranged for the afternoon of Friday, May 2, by the Actresses' Franchise League, at the Theatre Royal, Drury-lane, will be an important affair. Mr. Arthur Collins and Mr. Forbes-Robertson, whose advocacy of the suffrage cause is well known, have lent the theatre; and the speakers will include Lady Willoughby de Broke, Miss Gertrude Elliott, Miss Irene Vanbrugh, Miss Lena Ashwell, Miss Eva Moore, Miss Madeleine Lucette Ryley, Miss Compton, and Mrs. Arncliffe Sennett.

FORBES-ROBERTSON'S FAREWELL.

On Monday, April 14, the History, in Five Acts, by George Bernard Shaw, entitled "CÆSAR AND CLEOPATRA."

Chorus ..... Mr. Grendon Bentley
Julius Cæsar ..... Mr. J. Forbes-Robertson
Cleopatra ..... Miss Gertrude Elliott
Ftatateeta ..... Miss Adeline Bourne
Pothinus ..... Mr. H. Athol Forde
Theodotus ..... Mr. S. A. Cookson
Ptolemy XIV. ..... Master Richard Seaton
Achillas ..... Mr. Walter Ringham
Rufio ..... Mr. Frank Lacy
Britannus ..... Mr. Ian Robertson
Lucius Septimus ..... Mr. Percy Rhodes
A Wounded Soldier ..... Mr. Richard Andean
A Sentinel ..... Mr. S. T. Pearce
A Major Domo ..... Mr. George Hayes
Apollodorus ..... Mr. Alex. Scott-Gatty
Centurion ..... Mr. Robert Atkins
First Porter ..... Mr. L. Frith
Second Porter ..... Mr. E. A. Ross
Boatman ..... Mr. Eric Adeney
A Nubian Slave ..... Mr. D. Wells

Mr. Forbes-Robertson's season at Drury Lane had another interesting revival added to its list on Monday. This was "Cæsar and Cleopatra," by George Bernard Shaw, which had already been seen in London at the Savoy Theatre in 1907. On the present occasion a new prologue has been added, delivered by Ra, the Sun-god of the Egyptians, who emerges from his tomb wearing an awe-inspiring hawk head-dress, and orates in the true, delightful Shavian spirit to "the men with white paper over their chests," and to "the alluring women," both of whom he scornfully classifies as "doll-folk who serve that cad among gods, Mammon." To the "doll-folk" Ra delivers a lecture on Roman history, which serves as an introduction to the play; and, at the termination of his oration, as he is about to re-enter his tomb, he turns fiercely on the audience and rebukes them harshly for daring to applaud him.

In the play proper, one of Mr. Shaw's most entertaining blends of quaint humour, satirical melodrama, and witty farce, Mr. Forbes-Robertson's noble personality is admirably adapted to the character of Julius Cæsar, as drawn by Mr. Shaw—a very human Cæsar, of great conceptions and noble ideals, gravely humorous and broadly philosophic. Mr. Forbes-Robertson's Julius is famous; it is doubtful if any other actor has ever caused the greatness of Cæsar to be so fully realised. Miss Gertrude Elliott's Cleopatra has wonderfully improved. There is an added force of character in her impersonation of the regal, high-spirited, cruel girl that doubles its effectiveness. In her one sees the dawning of the great queen who swayed men's destinies by her beauty and power. Miss Adeline Bourne is tremendously ferocious as Ftatateeta, the queen's nurse; her appearance alone is enough to inspire dread, and when her powerful voice is raised in anger the theatre—and the audience—tremble. Mr. Ian Robertson, delightfully made up as an early Saxon, plays Britannus, Cæsar's secretary, with such skill and quiet humour that we could hardly see enough of him; and Mr. Alex. Scott-Gatty as Apollodorus, the handsome Sicilian, is extraordinarily good. Master Richard Seaton is a charming little Ptolemy—just an ordinary naughty little boy who found being a king a dreadful bore, and longed to murder his sister when she smacked him. Mr. Grendon Bentley is a most impressive Ra, full-voiced and sonorous and mightily scornful of the "doll-folk." Mr. Frank Lacy is beautifully bluff and outspoken as Rufio, Cæsar's lieutenant; and Mr. H. Athol Forde and Mr. S. A. Cookson are exceedingly good as Ptolemy's guardian and tutor respectively, while Mr. Walter Ringham is entirely convincing as the chief general. Lucius Septimus is impressively played by Mr. Percy Rhodes; Mr. Richard Andean plays a wounded soldier with considerable skill; and Mr. S. T. Pearce and Mr. George Hayes, as a sentinel and a major-domo, are well in the picture. Mr. Robert Atkins is consistent as a centurion; and Mr. L. Frith and Mr. E. A. Ross are good as first and second porter. Mr. Eric Adeney makes the most of a small part as a boatman; and Mr. D. Wells is sufficiently servile as a Nubian slave. There are some remarkably pretty young ladies among Cleopatra's attendants, and the scenery, by Messrs. T. Ryan, R. McCleery, Bruce Smith, and J. Harker, is more than adequate. Special mention should be made of the Sphinx scene, a really beautiful and most impressive setting.

"FANCY DRESS."

A Comedy in One Act, by Gerald Dunn, Produced at the Criterion Theatre, on Monday, April 14.

Captain Truscott ..... Mr. Charles Esdale
Lawrence Browning ..... Mr. Richard Lane
Parkins ..... Mr. Fred Grove

An ingenious variant of the burglar play is presented in "Fancy Dress," which now precedes "Eliza Comes to Stay" at the Criterion. Comedy is cleverly entwined with dramatic interest of a most engrossing kind; and indeed there are moments of intensity in the piece quite worthy of a grand Guignol "thriller." Returning to his flat after a fancy dress ball in a Bill Sykes costume, Captain Truscott suddenly finds himself confronted with the revolver of a real burglar arrayed in evening dress, who mistakes the master of the house for a fellow craftsman. The intruder has already gathered together all the valuables he can lay hands on, and after expressing contempt for the old-fashioned methods of his supposed confrère, goes into the next room to see if there is anything else to annex. The captain seizes the opportunity to call up the police on the telephone, but is caught in the act by the burglar, who is only restrained from killing the captain by his reminder that he will be caught and hanged. The captain is a "bit of a sport," and decides to let the burglar go. The police, however, are already outside the house, and there seems no way of escape, but the burglar has possessed himself of some incriminating letters, the publication of which would put the captain in an awkward position; and when the burglar proposes that the former shall steal out of the house as though he were the thief and be temporarily arrested, the captain is forced to consent, and shouldering the "swag" marches out into the arms of the police.

The cockney characteristics of the burglar were cleverly assumed by Mr. Fred Grove, while the access of passion and his attempts at self-control were ably depicted. The humour of the part was also strongly defined, and Mr. Grove is to be complimented upon a genuine piece of character. Mr. Charles Esdale acted with admirable ease and coolness as the Captain, his fine voice enabling him to give every expression to his lines. Mr. Richard Lane did well also as the cheery reveller, who assumes the costume of a pierrot. The little play held the house throughout, and won a most cordial reception.

The attractive powers of "Eliza Comes to Stay" are meanwhile being proved by crowded houses. The comedy gifts of Miss Eva Moore as the dowdy Eliza, who treads the "dangerous" paths of fashion in order to win the man she idolises, are well employed, and the audience is kept in constant laughter. Mr. H. V. Esmond contributes no less to the amusement of the house as the harassed hero, and the deliciously droll rendering given by Mr. Eric Lewis as the elderly suitor also forms one of the most enjoyable features of the piece.

"THE CAP AND BELLS."

Comedy, in Three Acts, by Robert Vansittart, Produced at the Little Theatre, Adelphi, on Thursday, April 17.

Earl of Chislehurst ..... Mr. Fred Kerr
Duke of Dartford ..... Mr. Eric Maturin
Percy Robinson ..... Mr. Godfrey Tearle
Hammond ..... Mr. Heath Haviland
Lady Chislehurst ..... Miss Maude Millett
Lady Clara Marden ..... Miss Ethel Warwick

The extremely favourable reception which was accorded Mr. Robert Vansittart's comedy on Thursday evening was mainly due to the happy style in which the author dealt with certain political problems of the hour, and, revealing a keen sense of humour, made fun of the enthusiast who boldly and recklessly attacks the existing social condition of things. Mr. Percy Robinson, a leading character in the comedy, is a type of politician whose earnestness and honesty of purpose do not save him from putting himself in a false position, and suffering the humiliation of knowing that he is being guided by private feeling at a time when his sole object should be the public good, as he understands it. Mr. Vansittart has his fling at the weakness of poor human nature, as revealed in the ardent politician who sees things from only one point of view, and Thursday night's audience at the Little Theatre found great enjoyment in the author's mordant but always inoffensive satire.

Mr. Percy Robinson is a young man who has forsaken the law for politics, and regards it as his mission in life to right the wrongs of the working-class. He is already in Parliament, and there is a probability that the Government will give him an Under Secretaryship that will shortly become vacant. For the time being he is engaged in organising a strike amongst railwaymen, and thus it happens he finds himself in conflict with the Earl of Chislehurst, chairman of the directors of the railway company. Mr. Robinson prides himself on the fact that he is not a party man, and he is quite impartial in his attacks upon Radical and Conservative. But as the leader of the strike movement he is specially severe, in his public utterances, upon Lord Chislehurst and his prospective son-in-law, the Duke of Dartford, whom he has designated "a fetid, unhealthy fungus." This, however, does not prevent Lady Clara Marden, the Duke's fiancée, from inviting Mr. Robinson to tea at Wood End, her father's residence. But then Lady Clara is not a young woman of the ordinary type. She takes an interest in politics, and is a strong supporter of the Suffragist campaign. As Mr. Robinson is also a votes-for-women champion, they have at least one object in common. Now, her fiancé's main interest in life is golf; he detests politics, and makes rude remarks about the House of Lords; hence in my lady's eyes he does not shine in contrast with plain Mr. Robinson.

"The Cap and Bells," it should be explained, is the name of the inn in the town at which Mr. Robinson is staying while organising the strike that is threatened, and the title has a distinct significance, as is presently shown. Mr. Robinson accepts Lady Clara's invitation to take tea at her father's house because she attracts him. And when the strike does come she pleads with him to put an end to it for the women and children's sake. But he refuses on the ground that there must be complete unity amongst the men all through the country. Lord Chislehurst is prevented by the strikers from addressing a public meeting, missiles are thrown, and his companion, the Earl of Dartford, is struck in the eye by an egg. Love and politics are discordant elements, and in conflict Master Cupid generally gets the best of it. The resolves of Mr. Robinson are gradually broken down by the all-powerful influence of a woman, and the attitude he assumes in regard to the strike loses him the position he has hitherto held as a leader of the working men, and the prospect of becoming an Under Secretary of State. In the meanwhile, the Duke, with his damaged eye bound up, has called Lady Clara to account for advocating the cause of the Suffragettes, and thereby making the acquaintance of such a fellow as Robinson. A quarrel between the couple ensues, and the Duke honestly admits that while he likes her better than anybody else he does not actually love her—that in his view is a non-essential condition of a happy marriage. The man she marries must give her his love, she declares; and there and then breaks off the engagement. When asked by her parents the reason of this rupture, she calmly asserts that she is engaged to Mr. Robinson; but that young gentleman declines to be a party to this deception. Left alone with Lady Clara's father, he explains that his action is solely dictated by his love for her; he has no wish that she should become the bride of a ruined man, who will have to start his career afresh. But Lady Clara has an estate of her own and an income of £3,000 a year; and when she learns the real motive of his conduct in not responding to her advances, she finds it easy to forgive the man she loves and respects.

Miss Ethel Warwick succeeded in endowing Lady Clara Marden with a charm of manner that quite accounted for the rapid conquest of Mr. Percy Robinson. As portrayed by this always charming young actress, her ladyship was a very fascinating personality, and in the long scene with Robinson, where Lady Clara slowly but surely compels the man to do as she wishes, Miss Warwick was seen at her best. Mr. Godfrey Tearle played the part of Percy Robinson exceedingly well. He gave a careful and thoroughly convincing study of the young man, deadly in earnest, whose political career is cut short through the intervention of mischievous Master Cupid. The display of intense feeling in the scenes with Lady Clara, though subdued, was genuine and effective. Mr. Fred Kerr, by an exceedingly clever performance, rendered the character of the Earl of Chislehurst clear and distinct. The aristocratic manner, and the testy temper, concealing a kindly nature, were admirably assumed. Miss Maude Millett was also well suited as Lady Chislehurst, who, by the way, has some of the smartest lines in the play. Miss Millett gave them their due value, and scored in every scene in which she took part. Mr. Eric Maturin was very good as the golf enthusiast, the Earl of Dartford, whose easy indifference to everything but the game of which he is a devotee rendered him a most amusing personage. Mr. Heath Haviland as the Earl's manservant, Hammond, completed the cast.

The reception of the new play was most enthusiastic, and the author responded to a call. The comedy was preceded by some clever character sketches at the piano, given by Miss Dorothy Varick.

Mr. Cecil du Gué, who fell ill whilst playing the heavy part in "Kismet" last Christmas, is now out of hospital, and making a speedy, and, we hope, a complete, recovery.

There was an exceptionally large attendance of members and their friends at the annual conversazione of the London District of the Institute of Journalists, held at the Trocadero Restaurant on Saturday afternoon. The guests were received by Mrs. Carruthers, the chairman of the district. An excellent programme was provided for the occasion. Mr. Arthur Helmore gave a couple of his clever humorous recitals; and Miss Helen Mar's amusing stories were greatly appreciated. Mr. C. W. Wreford gave "The Orytorio" in the West of England dialect, and an American recitation. Other contributors to the programme included the Carnation Trio, Miss Evelyn Clifford, Miss Dorothy Court, Miss Madeline Downing, Miss Gertrude Tarran, Miss Jean Waterston, Mr. Paul Brentwood, Mr. James Chilcott, Mr. William Doe, Mr. Harrison Hill, Mr. John Humphreys, Mr. John Montague, and Mr. Haydn Wood. Mr. Willy Scott was the accompanist.

SHERIDAN AT HIS MAJESTY'S.

On Saturday, April 12, Revival of
"THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL."

Sir Peter Teazle .....Sir Herbert Tree
Sir Oliver Surface .....Mr. A. E. George
Sir Harry Bumper .....Mr. Harry Williams
Sir Benjamin Backbite ....Mr. Nigel Playfair
Joseph Surface .....Mr. Philip Merivale
Charles Surface .....Mr. Matheson Lang
Careless .....Mr. C. Hayden Coffin
Snake .....Mr. Ben Field
Crabtree .....Mr. J. Fisher White
Rowley .....Mr. Henry Morrell
Moses .....Mr. G. W. Anson
Sir [illegible]by .....Mr. Roy Byford
Trip .....Mr. Stanley Howlett
Servant .....Joseph .....Mr. Alexander Sarner
Lady Teazle .....Miss Phyllis Neilson-Terry
Mrs. Candour .....Miss Rose Edouin
Maid to Lady Teazle ....Miss Winifred Fitch
Maria .....Miss Marie Hemingway
Maid to Lady Sneerwell ....Miss Irene Delisse
Lady Sneerwell .....Miss Frances Dillon

One is always glad to see "The School for Scandal" again, and it is several years since Sir Herbert Tree's last revival of the piece at His Majesty's, with himself as Sir Peter, Mr. Henry Neville as Sir Oliver, Mr. Henry V. Esmond as Backbite, Mr. Robert Loraine as Charles Surface, Mr. Basil Gill as Joseph, Mr. Edward Terry as Snake, Mr. Hermann Vezin as Rowley, Mr. Lionel Brough as Moses, Mr. Godfrey Tearle as Trip, Miss Ellis Jeffreys as Lady Sneerwell, and Miss Marie Löhr as Lady Teazle. "The School for Scandal," though, like all classics, it suffers from the staleness of familiarity, is eternally young in essentials. The characters are types rather than studies, and the originals are always with us. No doubt the upper classes drink less and dress less picturesquely than they did in Sheridan's time; but the races of amiable spendthrifts and saucy intriguers, of uxorious middle-aged husbands and frisky, pleasure-loving wives, of spiteful scandalmongers and rich and exuberant uncles will never die out of the land. "The School for Scandal" is antiquated, not by its personages, but by the excellence of its form. It was written in an age of epigram, and this may rather be described as an age of slip-slop. The result of this compressed point on some of our modern actors and actresses is curious. They seem to be astonished and embarrassed by having to repeat wit, and to be afraid that their hearers—equally unaccustomed to listen to it—may overlook the gems unless they are placed in a setting of emphasis. How far this is true, whether a modern audience does require epigram to be thrown at its head, to be rubbed into it, so to speak, we are not prepared to say. To those who know Sheridan's play by heart, the elaboration is so unnecessary as to be almost irritating.

It is refreshing, therefore, to be presented with so spontaneous a Lady Teazle as Miss Phyllis Neilson-Terry. Miss Terry is, to outriders, a psychological puzzle. But then, so is Lady Teazle; her mystery is part of her charm. What is Lady Teazle, anyhow? Is she a woman with a "temperament," savage at being chained to a man old enough to be her guardian? Or is she a vain, ill-tempered, rather heartless girl-woman, living on the surface of life, and only affected by irritability? If "The School for Scandal" had been written in the style of "Little Eyolf," we should have known all about the "secrets of the alcove" of Sir Peter's mansion; as it is, we can only yield to the fascination of the uncertain. And this fascination Miss Neilson-Terry liberally supplies. Her beauty is of the clean, sharp, highly finished sort; she has a most musical laugh, assisted by a perfect set of teeth; and her nature has just the dash of vinegar that gives piquancy to the salad. To hear this Lady Teazle's burst of exulting laughter when she perceives how Sir Peter has "given himself away" by his remark about "taste," is simply delightful, and she is full of *agaceries*, pretty pouts and frowns and head-tossings, together with an artless vanity which is bewitching. We have not for some time past seen a Lady Teazle who combined the ex-country girl, the sensitive coquette, and the born woman of fashion so cleverly as Miss Neilson-Terry does. Considering her age, her performance is extraordinary. Notice her facial play when Joseph taunts Lady Teazle with being afraid to take "the only revenge in her power."—There is, first, a wave of sexual feeling, a leaning towards the suggestion of the malicious but magnetic libertine, whom, morally, she thoroughly despises—"He spoke, and Helen's secret soul was moved; She scorned the champion but the man she loved." Then Lady Teazle's self-will asserts itself; there is a reaction, an irritated reaction, against the momentary turning of the head, and, finally, a sense that she is taking life too seriously, and that it is time to return to her attitude of smart frivolity. For an actress of Miss Terry's age to be able to conceive all this, let alone expressing it, is little short of a marvel. As for the hoydenish bits of business, they are quite "in the character," and very refreshing; and we hope Miss Terry will not be persuaded to abandon them. Sir Herbert Tree's Sir Peter is well known to all playgoers. It is the same highly-toned, polished, perfectly borne and balanced impersonation that it was in 1909. Its former dignity is an excellent foil to Miss Neilson-Terry's gaiety; and in authority and importance it essentially predominates. The rest of the cast is an admirable example of judicious selection, and the tout ensemble is excellent. Mr. A. E. George is a very vigorous and full-blooded Sir Oliver; Mr. Philip Merivale as Joseph Surface cleverly allows the hypocrite and the schemer to shine through the polish of the "perfect gentleman"; and Mr. Matheson Lang is a handsome, well-bred, and buoyant Charles. Mr. Harry Williams is a brisk and active Sir Harry; and Mr. Nigel Playfair is an amusing and original Sir Benjamin. Mr. C. Hayden Coffin, of course, sings the song splendidly as Careless; and Mr. G. W. Anson gives a rich and ripe reading of the rôle of Moses. Miss Rose Edouin is quaint and comic as Mrs. Candour, Miss Frances Dillon is a "smart" and intelligent Lady Sneerwell, and Miss Marie Hemingway makes a pretty and pleasing, and not too insipid, Maria. Mr. Ben Field is efficient as Snake, Mr. Henry Morrell is a bluff and sturdy Rowley, and Mr. Stanley Howlett an unusually smooth and handsome Trip, Mr. J. Fisher White—with an ear-trumpet—being an emphatic and effective Crabtree. The revival is beautifully mounted, the costumes designed by Percy Macquoid, R.I., and the scenery, painted by Mr. Joseph Harker, being exquisitely tasteful and artistic.

At the conclusion of the performance Sir Herbert Tree, in a brief speech, referred to his previous revival of the play with an all-star cast, and regretted that so many of his comrades of that occasion had gone over to the majority.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

"The Mask." A quarterly journal of the art of the theatre. April. Price 4s. net.

"Mistress Davenant." The Dark Lady of Shakespeare's Sonnets. By Arthur Acheson. 332 pages. Price 10s. 6d. net. Published by Bernard Quaritch.

"The Perfidious Marriage," and other plays, by Leonard Henslowe. 91 pages. Price 1s. 6d. net. Published by Stanley Paul.

MR. ARTHUR SCOTT CRAVEN.

To seek to Interview an actor or actress upon the occasion of their First Night cannot, perhaps, be regarded as the "psychological moment" for such a proceeding. But the actor being willing and the "Era" representative desirous, Mr. Arthur Scott Craven was duly discovered in his dressing-room at the Aldwych Theatre on Monday evening at the end of Act II. of "Her Side of the House," receiving the congratulations of Mr. Lechmere Worrall, the author of the play (who must be felicitated upon writing a really clever and interesting comedy, far away from the beaten track), and other friends, upon the immediate personal success he had achieved in taking up the part which had gained so much distinction at the hands of Mr. Godfrey Tearle.

When the visitors had departed, it was noticeable that the clever young actor exhibited a perfectly imperturbable demeanour when confronted with the journalist's awesome pen—nor was any appearance of the quite excusable "First Night" nervousness observable. No, the buoyant, and, withal, breezy, disposition of the athletic-looking actor—judgmatically balanced by those histrionic qualities which convoy their possessor agreeably along the primrose path of fame—would be ill-mated with any thoughts of timorousness.

Commenced cheery Mr. Scott Craven: "It is so good of you to desire to seek me out upon this occasion; and, as you have just heard, to have received such a generous measure of approbation from the author of the play—not forgetting your own most kind remarks—is most charming, and highly encouraging."

"Having regard to your interesting past and present activities, both with your pen and upon the stage, your present successful achievement has not—so I learned from my seat in the stalls—over-surprised your friends."

"How very kind of everyone; but then, you know, I was exceedingly fortunate in having

Photo by Russell and Co.

MR. ARTHUR SCOTT CRAVEN.

such a clever and charming principal lady to act with as Miss Dulce Musgrave. This, I feel, was so exceedingly helpful. Have a 'Black and White'?"

"Ah, that reminds me. Tell me, good sir, of your Club-talked-of contribution to 'The Magpie' and other happenings in your busy life, that I may record them."

"Well, dealing with affairs fragmentarily, I 'did' the lyrics for the Shaftesbury success, 'Princess Caprice,' and a children's play at Christmas for Robert Courtneidge; and now I have a tragi-comic Poem, entitled 'Dawkins'—yes, simply 'Dawkins'—appearing in the May Number of the 'Magpie'; and the publishers of that popular Magazine inform me that an enormous—but, no! this revelation may savour somewhat of indiscretion. I have also written 'Poems in Divers Keys,' 'Joe Skinner' (which, may I say, are enjoying a gratifying popularity), and a play, 'The Last of the English.' And this brings my thoughts to footlight affairs again. I made my first stage appearance in mid-1897, and was a member of Sir Herbert Tree's Company in '98 and '99; leading man under Ben Greet's Management in 'The Three Musketeers,' 'A Royal Family,' and Shakespearean répertoire until 1901. During the following ten years I was playing constantly, mostly leading parts; and my interesting engagements included visits to South Africa and America (where I was under Frohman's Management), and appearances in London with Arthur Bourchier, Miss Jessie Millward (who I was so glad to see has lately visited England again), with Sir John Hare, and again with Sir Herbert Tree, and in Lady Tree's excellent production, 'The Sirocco,' at Liverpool.

"Recently I have appeared with charming Miss Gertrude Kingston, and with that sterling actor and right good fellow, Ben Webster; and but last week I was yet once more at His Majesty's, in 'The Happy Island.'

"This about brings affairs up to date, and—hark! Up goes the Curtain on Act III." And the actor and the journalist each hastily sought his allotted place in the theatre.

"READY MONEY" AT RICHMOND HIPPODROME.

Messrs. N. Bransgrove and N. C. Slaughter have this week presented "Ready Money" here. Already these clever entrepreneurs have established a reputation for the excellence of their productions, and "Ready Money" is no exception; indeed, the clever comedy is staged and played with all the completeness that go to make up a West End production. There is not a single part in the cast that is not skilfully interpreted, and the company is one of all-round, sterling excellence. On Mr. L. Bruce fell the brunt of the hard work as Stephen Baird, and he created a particularly favourable impression, and much of the success of the evening belongs to this capable young actor. A finely portrayed character is the Jackson Ives of Mr. H. Wolston; while a good word goes to Mr. C. Cobb as William Stewart. The avaricious Morgan is splendidly played by Mr. Herbert Maule, while Mr. C. Aspinall as the Hon. J. H. Tyler is quite good. Hammond finds a capital exponent in Mr. Chas. Brighten, and very admirable is Mr. Brooklyn as Sam Welch. Yeoman service is rendered by the fair members of the company. Distinctly clever is the Grace Tyler of Miss Maude Davis; while Miss Lindsay Gray is sufficiently shrewish as Mrs. John to win approval and provoke mirth. Miss Majory Brown is a winsome and dainty Ida, and wins the approval of everyone; while the Margaret Elliott of Miss Saville marks a painstaking performance.

The comedy was received with cordial favour. Mr. Cecil Calvert is responsible for the really efficient stage-management, and Mr. J. H. Tilley is the courteous and capable manager.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"HOCHHERRSCHAFTLICHE WOHNUNGEN."
Burlesque, in Four Scenes, by Toni Impekoven,
Produced at the Komödienhaus, April 5.

Paffke ..... Herr Baselt
Appolonia ..... Fräulein Strassmann-Wit
Lorchen ..... Fräulein Dusedann
Keller ..... Herr Werner
Tante Malchen .....Fräulein Salzmann
Simpel ..... Herr Leopold
Harun al Kaschmir ..... Herr Eggers-Decken
Pamela ..... Fräulein Fricke
Rosenbaum ..... Herr Lohnstein
Arbeitsführer .....Herr Wassermann
Pickel ..... Herr S. Impekoven
Johanna .....Fräulein Altenberg
Asiba ..... Fräulein Dobbel
Lissy .....Fräulein Orsa
Paul ..... Herr Savern

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, Thursday, April 10.—This is in the style of the good old Berlin burlesque farce, a piece with no plot to speak of, and full of the most extravagant nonsense, but with plenty to laugh at. And the audience appreciated the nonsense and laughed and applauded by turns with such right good will that there is evidently a long run in store for the popular actor-author-manager's latest effort. The title signifies "commodious and luxurious flats," one sees the announcement at every turn in Berlin, W., where houses have floors to let, and the hero of Herr Impekoven's burlesque meets with a good many notices of the kind. This worthy man is Heinrich Paffke, a retired bonbon manufacturer, who has more money than he knows what to do with, and is determined to move to the metropolis and cut a figure. It would be an impossible task to detail his adventures when he comes over to Berlin to house-hunt. It will suffice to say that everybody in the piece is more or less of a caricature. He falls an easy prey to many people, and one of his chief adventures is when he makes the acquaintance of an Indian, Harun al Kaschmir, a magician, at whose séances the unfortunate Paffke is frightened almost out of his wits. He, poor man, is in fact so disillusionised that he gives up for all time the idea of leaving his native little town of Perleberg for the capital. The acting was exceedingly good, Herr Baselt being particularly funny in the part of Paffke. It was Herr Baselt, by the way, who created Sir Guy de Vere in German. One of the best renderings was that of Fräulein Altenberg, who had the rôle of Johanna Makulopick to give, an old house-porter woman—a person known and feared to the owners of Berlin flats. Fräulein Altenberg made quite a masterpiece out of the part, and gained applause by open stage repeatedly. The author was called before the footlights several times and applauded to the echo.

At the Chamber Playhouse of the Deutsches Theatre, Sacha Guitry's comedy, "Die Einnahme von Berg-op-Zoom," was produced on Friday, with the best possible results. The mounting was admirable, as is always the case at Prof. Reinhardt's theatres, but the acting might have been more vivacious. The rôle of the fascinating commissioner of police was given by Herr Wassmann, who, clever actor as he is, was not quite at his best. Fräulein Konstantin as Paulette was good, and so were several others of the cast, but on the whole the performance was somewhat heavy. The audience, however, were delighted, and tendered very general and hearty applause.

Herr Harry Walden, our first-rate character-actor—creator of Karl Heinz in "Alt-Heidelberg"—is giving a season at the Deutsches Schauspielhaus (formerly the Komische-Oper), and attracting large audiences. He commenced with the ever-popular "Alt-Heidelberg," and has now gone over to Oscar Wilde's play, "Ein idealer Gatte," in which he has always been so successful in the name-part.

At the Schiller Franz von Schönthan's three-act comedy, "Klein Dorrit," has been revived after a long period. Although there is very little of the Dickens upon which the author has pretended to found his play—or perhaps for that very reason—the success was less than might have been expected. The interpretation was excellent, but the piece is too drawn-out for the average theatre-goer's patience.

The Lessing has revived Hermann Bahr's "Konzert," the comedy that enjoyed a run some years ago. The same theatre is preparing a Hauptmann cycle and also one of its traditional Ibsen cycles, both in chronological order.

NEW PLAYS IN BERLIN.

"Lord Piccolo," operetta, in three acts, by Henry Berény; Gross Berlin, March 1.
"Kulturpalast," three-act comedy, by A. F. Cohn; Freie Volksbühne, March 2.
"Der Schönheitssalon," farce, in three acts, by MM. Jacoby and Lippschitz; Komödienhaus, March 4.
"Im wunderschönen Monat Mai," three-act comedy, by MM. Knicksberg and Ritterfeld; Luisen, March 4.
"Tod und Leben," one-act comedy, by Ludwig Ganghofer; Lessing, March 8.
"Der Zigeunerprimas," operetta, in three acts, by C. Kalman; Montis Operetten-Theatre, March 8.
"Extrazug nach Nizza," vaudeville, in three acts, by MM. Lippschitz and Schönau; Norlendorf Platz, March 9.
"Verlassene Frauen," five-act volks-play, by R. Lingen; Rose, March 13.
"Die Stunde der Erkenntnis," dramatic sketch, by Leo Lenz; Deutsches Schauspielhaus, March 15.
"Die Boten seiner Herrlichkeit," one-act play, by Felix Josty; Deutsches Schauspielhaus, March 15.
"Napoleons Sieg und Fall," five-act play, by MM. Hübener and Rotterfeld; Luisen, March 17.
"Das gelobte Land," play, in four acts, by A. Mayer-Brandus; Deutsches Schauspielhaus, March 18.
"Die Sieben Todsünden," three-act play, by A. Kranewitter (Erl's Tiroler season); Krolls, March 20.
"Das Farmermädchen," three-act operetta, by G. Okonkowsky; Gross Berlin, March 22.
"Das Gnadenbild," four-act comedy, by R. Brix (Erl's Tiroler season); Krolls, March 27.
"Das Mädchen aus dem goldenen Westen," opera, in three acts, by Giucomo Puccini; Deutsches Opernhaus, March 28.
"Das Buch einer Frau," three-act comedy, by Lothar Schmidt; Königgrätzer Strasse, March 28.

The Pioneer Players have been forced to postpone their performance of the religious drama, "Paphnutius," written by the Nun Haroswitha in the eleventh century, and dealing with the penitent "Thais," until next Christmas, owing to the difficulties of securing music suitable to that period, the translator having made it a condition that the music should be of the century.

"The Girl in the Taxi" celebrated its 250th performance at the Lyric Theatre on the 11th inst. In consequence of the interest created by the gorgeous Paris reception gowns, with which the ladies of the chorus appearing in the first act were recently re-dressed, Mr. P. Michael Faraday has decided that Miss Yvonne Arnaud, Miss Paton, and Miss Cicely Stuckey shall shortly be provided with new creations representing the latest fashions in evening frocks.

MISS EMMY WEHLEN.

AT THE GAIETY.

Peals of silvery laughter reached the ears of "The Era" representative through the partly opened door, as he stepped from the lift and approached Miss Emmy Wehlen's sanctum at the Gaiety Theatre. Had not the visitor been invited to call "after Act I."—to be received in audience solus? Surely these mirthful sounds betokened the presence of a merry throng! A trimly-attired maid, in answer to his timorous knock, invited him within. The visitor passed the portals with trepidation, and found—a charming picture before him: the most cosy and artistically embellished of dressing-rooms, and a youth (the sole occupant of the apartment) of singularly attractive appearance, and attired in the latest mode. Miss Emmy Wehlen (dressed for her part of Freddy) arose with alacrity from the divan, and greeted the visitor with elegant grace. Then, demurely, "Please do make yourself quite at home. It's so nice of you to come and see me." The new arrival bowed, and—silence reigned. Then the but partly-concealed signs of mirth asserted themselves—and once again sounds of joyous laughter circled in the air.

"Pray do forgive me, won't you? I would dearly love to reveal to you its contents (pointing to a letter surmounted by a Coronet, which she held in her hands); but it wouldn't be fair. It's too ridiculous for words. But I will show it to my ——. Yes?"—in response to a tap on the door—"Come in. Would we like coffee? A good idea, Cecile; and some cigarettes, too, please.

"Now, you patient man, I am going to try and be serious—nicht wahr? So! I was born in Vienna, you know. There—that's a perfect English-like sentence, is it not? I have to say 'you know' every now and then, have I not?"

"C'est ne pas necessaire. Besides, you speak our language quite fluently."

"Thank you, sir. Well, to continue. I originally made my first public appearance as an actress

[Photo by Foulsham and Banfield

MISS EMMY WEHLEN.

and vocalist in the city of my birth, and afterwards at the principal theatres in Stuttgart, Munich, and Berlin. I was playing in 'Mitternachtsmädchen' (Anglice, 'The Midnight Girl'—yes, 'Girl'-titled plays are plentiful in other places besides London, you know), when Mr. George Edwardes saw me; and I accepted his attractive offer to appear in London. This was four years ago. At that time I did not know one single word of your difficult language; and when I took up the part of Sonia, in 'The Merry Widow,' at Daly's, I only knew the English of my own part, and, of course, the cues: and yet I have long since been told I speak English 'like a native.' I afterwards appeared at the same theatre (this was in September, 1909) as Olga, in 'The Dollar Princess.' At the conclusion of its run at Daly's I went to America, and appeared at the New York Casino as Rosalie in 'Marriage à la Carte'; and later in the same play in Chicago and other principal cities, including Washington, where I played before the then President Taft and a large party of his friends from White House. I found him a particularly charming man. I have, may I say, both on the Continent, in England, and in America, been fortunate enough to receive most excellent Press notices."

"Your popularity with the Press and the Playgoing public—and, believe me, both these sections of the community contain 'captious critics'—is entirely deserved."

"How sweet of you to say that. Well, when I returned from the States I re-commenced studying singing in Paris. Later, I came to London. Then at Mr. Edwardes' wish I visited Berlin to see 'The Girl on the Film,' in its German dress, and now, in its English attire, I am most happy in playing my part of Freddy at the Gaiety."

"You are doubtless experiencing that peculiar form of persecution (certain esoteric circumstances not being appreciated) customarily inflicted upon the popular 'Gaiety Girl,' namely, being insufferably bored by offers of marriage from adolescent members of the Peerage?"

"Ah, that's telling," laughingly parried the pretty actress.

And "The Era" man, realising that he had been adroitly answered, went out into the night—carrying with him contenting memories of a vision of daintiness, grace, and charm, which the mild excitements attendant upon the crowded condition of the Strand proved wholly powerless to dispel.

SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE.

On Monday, April 14, the Drama, entitled
"HER SECRET LOVER."

Crowded and appreciative audiences have witnessed this well-written and excellently performed drama, which is being played by the stock company engaged here. Mr. Charles Adair gives a good performance of Gilbert Seymour. Mr. Roy Lorraine played Captain Darrell Rose with marked ability. As the despicable and callous John Strange it would be almost impossible to improve upon Mr. Alex. Bradley's impersonation. Mr. Fred L. Cunningham was first-class as Mr Murfield. Considerable amusement was created by Mr. Eric Campbell in his assumption of Bill Burley, who is burly both in name and form; and Mr. Jack Denton also ably assisted in the merriment by his impersonation of Jim Jones. These two laughter-makers were capably seconded by Miss Millie Phillips as Jane Maria, and Mr. Arthur Brandon represented a recruiting sergeant in a typical manner. Miss Florence Branes played Ivy Seymour in a charming and agreeable manner, winning the favour of the audience with her grace and sympathetic treatment, and Miss Mabel Coleman was an effective Allela Royale. The drama was elaborately mounted and staged During the evening the Bioscope screened some excellent films.

At the Theatre Royal, Bath, on the 11th inst. was performed for copyright purposes a new comedy, by W. T. Saward, entitled "The Casuists."

The wigs and make-ups for the performance of "The Mikado" at the Northern Polytechnic on Saturday were made by Messrs. Waller and Co., of 72, City-road, E.C.

DEATH OF MR. BARTON M'GUCKIN.

To the deep regret of his many friends Mr. Barton M'Guckin passed away on Thursday at his residence, Mimosa, Stoke Poges, the cause of death being heart failure. For many years the deceased singer held a distinguished position as an operatic tenor. He was born in Dublin on July 28, 1852, and began his career as a chorister at Armagh Cathedral.

He received instruction from R. Turle, then organist there, in singing, organ, violin, and pianoforte. He became first tenor at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, in 1871, and was for a time a pupil of Joseph Robinson. He sang at one of the Philharmonic concerts in Dublin in 1874, and in the following year made his début at the Crystal Palace concerts, July 5, 1875, after which he went to Milan and studied under Trevulsi. He reappeared with success at the same concerts, Oct. 28, 1876, where he first appeared as an oratorio singer in the "Lobgesang," Nov. 3, 1877. He made his début on the stage as Thaddeus under Carl Rosa at Birmingham, Sept. 10, 1880; at Dublin as Wilhelm Meister, May 9, 1881; in the same part at Her Majesty's, Jan. 20, 1882; and as Moro on the production in England of "The Painter of Antwerp," an English version of Balfe's Italian opera, "Pittore e Duca," Jan. 28, 1882. He remained in Rosa's company both in London and the provinces until the summer of 1887, and became a great favourite both as a singer and actor. His most important parts were Lohengrin, Faust, and Don José. At Drury Lane on March 26, 1883, he created the part of Captain Phœbus in Goring Thomas's "Esmeralda," founded on "The Hunchback of Notre Dame." The late Georgina Burns was the heroine, William Ludwig the Claude Frollo, Ben Davies the Gringoire, the late George H. Snazelle the Clopin, and Leslie Crotty the Quasimodo. Other original parts falling to his share were Orso ("Colomba"), April 9, 1883; Waldemar ("Nadeshda"), April 16, 1885; Guillem de Cabestanh ("Troubadour"), June 8, 1886; Oscar ("Nordisa"), May 4, 1887; at Edinburgh, Renzo on the production in English of Ponchielli's "Promessi Sposi," and at Liverpool, Des Grieux ("Manon"), Jan. 17, 1885. He sang in opera in America in 1887-88, and rejoined the Carl Rosa company from 1889 to 1896, adding to his repertory the part of Eleazar in "La Juive," and that of Thorgrim in Cowen's opera of that name, April 22, 1890. In 1889 he sang Lohengrin in Italian at Covent Garden with success. Mr. M'Guckin was extremely popular in the concert-room, and sang at the Philharmonic, the Crystal Palace, the Popular, and Oratorio concerts, and at the Handel and provincial festivals.

After a successful tour in Ireland in 1903 he was appointed (in Sept. 1905) musical-director of Dublin Amateur Operatic and Choral Society. He was associated as librarian with Mr. Oscar Hammerstein in the productions of lyric works at the London Opera House. Some years ago Mr. M'Guckin's son made several appearances as singer in London under the name of Noel Fleming. Mr. Fleming is at the present time on a prolonged tour of the Australasian Colonies.

ARTS AND DRAMATIC CLUB.

At an entertainment given at the Arts and Dramatic Club on Thursday evening, in aid of the fund recently established to acquire new premises, two one-act plays from the pen of Alice Clayton Greene were presented, entitled "Citizen Morot" and "For the Sake of Charity" respectively.

"CITIZEN MOROT"

proved to be an episode of the French Revolution, and the cast was as under:—

Charles Ettien Morot ....Mr. E. Ion Swinley
Gaston Marquis de Crèsny
Mr. Terence O'Brien
Governour of the Conciergerie
Mr. Ralph Hutton
Chief Jailer .....Mr. Jack Barry
Michelle de Crèsny
Miss Alice Clayton Greene

The action of the play takes place in the autumn of 1792, and the story told concerns the last hours of the condemned aristocrat, the Marquis de Crèsny. Crèsny is going to the guillotine to suit the purpose of Charles Morot, himself an erstwhile aristocrat, and now a leader of the revolution. The prisoner is ignorant of his crafty enemy, and innocently reveals the whereabouts of his cherished wife to Morot. The lady is sent for, and in her interview with Morot we learn the reasons for the latter's scheming. He had at one time been engaged to this lady, but the latter had married Crèsny instead, and now, thinking that she would return to him if her husband was removed, he uses his influence as a revolutionist to obtain that end. Madame spurns his entreaties and laughs at his threats. As her husband is called to his death she is fatally stabbed by a half-witted jailer, loyally crying "God save the king."

The story of "Citizen Morot" is a good one, and it is very well told. Though lacking a little in the strength of its situations, the plot is unfolded in a masterful and thoroughly interesting manner. Not a little was due on Thursday evening to the admirable acting of all concerned. Mr. E. Ion Swinley continues to enhance his claims as one of the most promising members of the younger school of actors. As Citizen Morot his general and accurate interpretation of a forceful part was generally appreciated. Mr. Terence O'Brien played the fated aristocrat with the desired bearing, whilst Mr. Ralph Hutton gave a piece of delightfully and naturally blunt acting in the part of the prison governor. Mr. Jack Barry did well in a small part. So highly were we appreciating her ability as an authoress that we felt inclined to wish that Miss Alice Clayton Greene had seen fit to allow her responsibilities to rest there. Her interpretation of Michelle de Cresny was not, perhaps, quite as convincing as both the play and the part, in the circumstances, required.

"FOR THE SAKE OF CHARITY"

was a farce played by—

Arthur Ingram ..... Mr. Edmund Snell
Guy Bellamy ..... Mr. Ralph Hutton
Constance Bellamy ..... Miss Annie Gordon

Though possessing much that is generally humorous, this production was not found on Thursday to possess the same standard of excellence as its predecessor. Constance Bellamy has decided to break off her engagement with Arthur Ingram, and whilst still of this determination she has to rehearse a love scene in a play they ar preparing for a charity bazaar. This, as may be imagined, is productive of a fair amount of comedy. It also serves to bring about a reconciliation between the pair. Miss Annie Gordon and Messrs. Edmund Snell and Ralph Hutton made the most of their parts, the latter especially being pleasingly droll at times.

In conclusion we would join the general protest against the lighting of the stage at the Clavier Hall. It was more than usually erratic on Thursday.

Mr. Harry Taylor, late of the Gaiety, asks us to mention that the recent Divorce Court proceedings, Phyllis Ethel Bentley-Taylor versus Harry G. Bentley-Taylor, in no way concern him.

EVERYONE should read the splendid new series of FATHER BROWN stories, by G. K. Chesterton, now appearing in the "PALL MALL MAGAZINE." Sixpence net everywhere.—(Advt.)

ON THE ROAD, APRIL 21.

Allah's Orchard.—Grand T., Blackpool.
Amazons, The.—T.R., Glasgow.
An Indian Girl's Devotion.—Hippo., Leigh.
Arcadians, The.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
Arcadians, The.—Empire T., Swindon.
As Your Hair Grows Whiter.—T.R., Leicester.
Balkan Princess.—New T., Oxford.
Bear-Leaders, The. — Winter Gardens, New Brighton.
Bella Donna.—T.R., Brighton.
Benson, F. R.—Memorial T., Stratford-on-Avon.
Benson, F. R. (Mr. Herbert).—Grand T., Nottingham.
Benson, F. R. (S.).—Yeovil and Basingstoke.
Bonnie Mary.—King's T., Worksop.
Breaking a Woman's Heart.—Grand T., Gt. Harwood.
Brewster's Millions.—Lyceum T., Crewe.
Bunty Pulls the Strings (S.).—Grand T., Hull.
Bunty Pulls the Strings (N.).—Edinburgh.
Butterfly on the Wheel.—Court T., Warrington.
Carl Rosa Opera.—T.R., Manchester.
Cattle Thief.—Prince's T., Preston.
Charley's Aunt.—T.R., Edinburgh.
Child of the Streets.—Grand T., Southampton.
Chocolate Soldier (No. 1).—P.O.W., Gt Grimsby.
Chocolate Soldier (N.).—T.R., Bournemouth.
Cingalee, The.—O.H., Leicester.
Clever Impostor, A.—Aquarium, Yarmouth.
Collier's Lass (N.).—Alexandra T., Sheffield.
Collier's Lass (S.).—Elephant and Castle, S.E.
Colombo Girl, The.—Alexandra T., Belfast.
Count of Luxembourg (Edwardes).—Peterborough and Grantham.
Country Girl, A.—H.M.T., Dundee.
Dickie Clare.—St. George's Hall, Falmouth.
Drake.—T.R., Portsmouth.
Draper, Marcus.—Hippo., Stoke-on-Trent.
Dust of Egypt.—Exeter.
Easiest Way, The.—Grand T., Southampton.
East Lynne (Pitt-Hardacre).—P.O.W., Nuneaton.
Face at the Window.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
Fatal Wedding.—Grand T., Glasgow.
For Her Children's Sake.—Grand T., Glasgow.
For His King and the Girl He Loved.—Grand T., Doncaster.
From Mill Girl to Millionairess.—Alexandra T., Hull.
Garrod, Mr. W. V.—Stafford and Leek.
Gay Lord Quex.—Fulham Theatre, S.W.
Gipsy Love.— G.T., Leeds.
Gipsy Love.—T.R., Hanley.
Girl in the Train (N.).—Hastings and Folkestone.
Girl of My Heart.—Kelly's T., Liverpool.
Girl's Good Luck.—T.R., Dewsbury.
Glad Eye (Meyer).—Lyceum T., Newport.
Glad Eye (Meyer).—H.M.T., Aberdeen.
Glenville and Osmond.—Hippo., Leigh.
Great Detective, The.—Gravesend.
Grotesques, The.—"Granville," Walham Green, S.W.
Her Love Against the World. — Empire T., Barnsley.
Hindle Wakes.—T.R., Bury.
Hindle Wakes.—Coliseum, Goole.
Hindle Wakes.—O.H., Middlesbrough.
Hindle Wakes.—Paisley T., Paisley.
His House in Order.—New T., Cambridge.
Improper Peter.—O.H., Burnley.
Indian Scout, The.—Hippo., Bolton
Kismet (Dance) (N.).—Sunderland.
Kismet (S.).—Hammersmith, W.
King of the Wild West.—T.R., Barnsley.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Chipping Norton and Chirk.
Little Damozel.—Winter Gardens, New Brighton.
Lomath, Mr. Stuart.—Queen's T., Leeds.
March Hares.—Tringle Hall, Clifton.
Marsh, Alexander, Shakespearean.—T.R., Halifax.
'Mid Pleasures and Palaces.—Hippo., Huddersfield.
Midnight Mail.—T.R., Oldham.
Milestones (Red).—King's T., Glasgow.
Milestones (White).—O.H., Coventry.
Milestones (Blue).—Prince's T., Bristol.
Miss Hook of Holland.—Pavilion T., Weymouth.
Miss Plaster—of Paris.—Palace T. Gloucester.
Moody Manners Opera.—T.R., Leamington.
Mormon and His Wives.—Palace T., Bordesley.
Mother's Love, A.—T.R., Margate.
Nick Carter.—T.R., Sunderland.
No Mother to Guide Her.—Empire T., Hednesford.
Old Home, The.—Prince's T., Bradford.
O'Mara Opera Co.—Court T., Wigan.
Only a Mill Girl.—T.R., Smethwick.
Our Miss Gibbs.—Alexandra T., Birmingham.
Pink Lady, The.—Grand T., Swansea.
Pride of the Prairie.—Metropole T., Manchester.
Princess Caprice.—Prince's T., Manchester.
Proud Maisie.—Kennington Theatre, S.E.
Queen for a Wife, A.—Grand T., Rawtenstall.
Queen of the Redskins (S.).—Eden T., Bishop Auckland.
Ready Money (Fenton).—Lincoln and Bury St Edmunds.
Round-Up, The.—T.R., St. Helens.
Royal Divorce, A.—Grand T., Pentre.
Royde Rept. Co.—O.H., Blackpool.
Sign of the Cross.—Boro' T., Stratford, E.
Silver King.—T.R., Aldershot.
Sledge-Hammer, The.—Empire T., Holloway, N.
Soldier Princess.—King's T., Hammersmith, W.
Speckled Band, The.—H.M.T., Carlisle.
Still Alarm.—T.R., Ashton.
Sunshine Girl (Edwardes).—T.R., Newcastle.
Sweet Nell of Old Drury.—Harrogate and Scarborough.
Temptress of Paris.—Metropole T., Abertillery.
Through Death Valley.—Grand T., Luton.
Turner's Opera Co.—T.R., Huddersfield.
Turning Point, The.—Wimbledon Theatre, S.W.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
Warner, Miss Grace.—Palace T., Croswell.
What Women Will Do For Love.—Empire T., Dunfermline.
When London Sleeps.—T.R., Leeds.
When Other Lips.—Metropole T., Glasgow.
Whip (S.).—Grand T., Doncaster.
White Girl Slave, The.—T.R., West Stanley.
White Slave (N.).—Junction T., Manchester.
White Slave (S.).—Alhambra, Stourbridge.
Whitty-Van Praagh.—Gaiety T., Burnley.
Wife for a Day, A.—Stafford and Leek.
Witness for the Defence.—Grand T., Accrington.
Young Buffalo.—T.R., Barnsley.
10.30 Down Express.—Grand T., Plymouth.

SUNDAY'S TRAIN CALLS.

By the courtesy of the various railway companies we are enabled to give the following particulars regarding the movements of theatrical and music hall touring companies travelling by rail to-morrow:

LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

The following companies will travel by the L. and N.W. route on Sunday next:—Mr. Geo. Edwardes' "Dancing Mistress," Liverpool to Dublin; Carl Rosa Opera, Leeds to Manchester; "Eternal Waltz," Birmingham to Liverpool; "Everywoman," Dublin to Nottingham; D'Oyly Carte Opera, Belfast to Liverpool; "Gipsy Love," Bolton to Hanley; "River Girl," Manchester to Wolverhampton; "Kismet," Wigan to London; "White Slave," Leeds to Manchester; "Round Up," Oldham to St. Helens; "Pride of Byzantia," Cross Lane to Widnes; "Shepherdland," Runcorn to Chorley; "Clever Imposter," Stourbridge to Yarmouth; "Cowboy's Revenge," Smethwick to Sheerness; "White Slave," Nuneaton to Stourbridge; "Colombo Girl," Coalville to Belfast; "Marked Money," Birmingham to Liverpool; "Diana of Dobson's," Bangor to Rochdale; "Bunty Pulls the Strings," Chester to Hyde; "Christian," Rawtenstall to Stoke; "Bungle's Luck," Hanley to Manchester; R. A. Roberts, Liverpool to Birmingham; "Our Miss Gibbs," Bootle to Birmingham; "One Life, One Love," Earlestown to Birmingham; "Mormon and Maid," Stockport to Ettingshall-road for Bilston; "Milestones," Burnley to Coventry; "Butterfly on the Wheel," Portsmouth to Warrington; "Little Miss Llewelyn," Hastings to Northampton; "No Mother to Guide Her," Brighton to Hednesford; Carl Hertz, Brighton to Birmingham; Mr. John Lawson's, Southend to Dudley; "Jelfs," Grimsby to Barrow; "Pride of the Prairie," Glasgow to Manchester; Luck Bros., St. Helens to Newcastle; Lew Lake's, Wigan to Glasgow; "Speckled Band," Barrow to S. Shields; "As Your Hair Grows Whiter," Hednesford to Leicester; "Collier's Lass," Birmingham to London; Chas. Austin's, Birmingham to London; "Witness for Defence," Birmingham to Accrington; Geo. Carney's, Birmingham to Manchester; "Girl of My Heart," St. Helens to Liverpool; "Cattle Thief," Stafford to Cradley; "East Lynne," London to Nuneaton; "Trip to Coontown," London to Birmingham; "Man and Superman," Cambridge to Birkenhead; "Submarine F7," London to Dundee; Rag-time Octette, Portsmouth to Glasgow; "Ready Money," Glasgow to Bradford; "Millgirl to Millionairess," Motherwell to Hull; "Gay Lord Quex," Carlisle to London: &c.

MIDLAND RAILWAY.

Theatrical Companies en route Sunday, April 20:—Mr. George Edwardes' "Gipsy Love" Co., Sheffield to Leeds; Miss Julia Neilson and Co., Leicester to Harrogate," "The Whip," Dewsbury to London; "The Arcadians," Nottingham to Sheffield; "The Younger Generation," Bristol to Birmingham: "Improper Peter," Derby to Burnley; "Cinders on Skates," Kettering to Rawtenstall; Moody Manners' Opera, Worcester to Leamington; Mr. F. R. Benson's Co., Harrogate to Nottingham; "The Venetians," Buxton to Chesterfield; "The Colombo Girl," Coalville to Belfast; "In the Balkans," Manchester to Bristol; "Everybody," Dublin to Nottingham; "Clandian," Burton to Liverpool; "An Indian Girl's Devotion," Mansfield to Leigh and Bedford; "From Mill to Mansion," Nelson to Heanor; Palladium Minstrels, Bristol to Manchester; "Dairymaids," Brighton to Rushden; "With Edged Tools," Lancaster to Lincoln; Grace Warner's Co., Rochdale to Elmton and Creswell; "Monte Cristo" Hull to Rotherham; "The Girl He Wanted," Leicester to Newcastle; "A Great Detective," Wellingborough to Gravesend; "Queen For Life," Stockton to Sutton-in-Ashfield: "Trip to Chinatown," Belfast to Bedford; Killino's Troupe, Halifax to Rushden; "Frontier Queen," Bedford to Woolwich: "Prisoner of Zenda," Wolverhampton to Sheffield; "Woman Without a Soul," Durham to Lancaster; Les Petits Anglais, Atherstone to Moorthorpe; Karno's "The Flats" Co., Bradford to Glasgow; "A White Slave," Nuneaton to Stourbridge; "Cinderella," Pye Bridge, to Scunthorpe, &c., &c.

LONDON AND SOUTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

The undermentioned theatrical parties will be travelling over the London and South-Western Railway Company's system on Sunday next:—"The Silver King" will travel from Waterloo to Aldershot by the 2 p.m. train; "The Vagabond" company will leave Waterloo by the 5.45 p.m. train, en route for Southampton; Gobert Belling's company, and Mr. Ambrose Barker's "The Corinthians," will leave Waterloo by the 5.25 p.m. train for Portsmouth. Other companies travelling by the L. and S. W. route will include: Mr. George Edwardes' "Merry Widow" and "Dollar Princess," Southampton to Tunbridge Wells: "Drake" Birmingham to Portsmouth; Mr. Michael Faraday's, "The Chocolate Soldier," Chatham to Bournemouth (leaving Waterloo 12 noon); Messrs. Vedrenne and Eadie's "Milestones," Bournemouth to Bristol; "Doormats" Guildford to Windsor; "The Butterfly on the Wheel," Portsmouth to Warrington: Marie Lo Aldershot to Waterloo; Mr. T. E. Hearne's Company, Boscombe to Exeter; Gerald Griffin's Company, Portsmouth to Nottingham; "Sexton Blake," Portsmouth to Porth: "Night in Egypt," Southampton to Mountain Ash: Collins' Company, Waterloo to Kingston: "Child of the Street," Windsor to Southampton: "Face at the Window," Aldershot to Portsmouth: Boises Troupe, Aldershot to Scunthorpe; American Rag-timers, Portsmouth to Glasgow: Bell Hatton's Company, Boscombe to Southend: "Don't You Believe It," Southampton to Portsmouth.

THE NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

The following companies will travel over the above railway to-morrow, Sunday:—Poole's "Titanic" company, Sunderland to New Cross; Duncan's collies, Newcastle to King's Cross; "Man Tempted Me," Newcastle to Manchester; O'Mara Opera Co., Sunderland to Wigan; "Cowboy's Redemption," Newcastle to Liverpool; "Faking the Film," Newcastle to Liverpool; "Woman Without a Soul," Durham to Lancaster; Permano's Bears, Chester-le-Street to Harrogate; "Sunshine Girl," Edinburgh to Newcastle; Follies, Glasgow to Newcastle; Corman's Juveniles, Glasgow to Newcastle; "Pride of the Prairie," Glasgow to Manchester; "Woody and Wells," Edinburgh to London; Houdini company, Glasgow to Sheffield; Dixie Girls, Newcastle to Norwich; "Bunty Pulls the Strings," Newcastle to Edinburgh; Georgia Coons, Newcastle to Edinburgh; Berzacs company, Newcastle to Glasgow; "Gay Lord Quex," Carlisle to London; "Millgirl to Millionairess," Motherwell to Hull; Quinlan company, Tynemouth to Newcastle; Ardath company, North Shields to Bishop Auckland; "Queen of the Redskins," South Shields to Bishop Auckland; "White Girl Slave," Bishop Auckland to Shield Row; Charburn's Young Stars, South Shields to Newcastle; "Arabs," Durham to Newcastle; Williams' Troupe, Gateshead to Wallsend; Juliette's Sea Lions, West Hartlepool to Sunderland; Slater's company, West Hartlepool to South Bank; "Nick Carter," Hartlepool to Sunderland; "Hindle Wakes," York to Middlesbrough; "Queen for a Wife," Thornaby to Sutton-in-Ashfield; "Frolics," Thornaby to Wigan; "Kismet," Middlesbrough to Sunderland; Linga Singh company, Middlesbrough to Glasgow; Selbit's company; Middlesbrough to Glasgow; Barnold's Dogs, Darlington to Doncaster; Julia Neilson's company, Leicester to Harrogate; La Milo company, London to Hull; "Night Side of London," Scarborough to Glossop; "Hullo! Rag-time," Leeds to Edinburgh; "What-Ho! Rag-time," Leeds to Edinburgh; Toby Claude company, Hull to Glasgow; "Chocolate Soldier," Hull to Grimsby; The Romps, Blackpool to Newcastle; "Beautiful Fiend," Goole to Brandon Colliery; Benson's company, Harrogate to Nottingham; "Blackguard of Queen's Regiment," Castleford to Chester.

Buxton amateurs, in aid of two deserving local charities, on Friday and Saturday evenings recently provided excellent fare at the Opera House in performances of Pinero's "The Amazons" and Barrie's "The Twelve Pound Look." The performance of "The Amazons" was of a most meritorious character. Miss Nora Grace was charming as the Amazon, a part that was carried through with commendable confidence. The Marchioness was in the able care of Mrs. Sidebottom. Miss Vera Brittain was seen to advantage in the part of Lady Wilhelmina; and Miss G. Lathbury played very prettily the character of Lady Thomasin. As "Sergeant" Shuter, Miss Beryl Arrowsmith made quite a success. The part of the Earl of Tweemways was taken with the utmost merit by Mr. C. C. Railton; and Barrington came in for a most intelligent reading by Mr. Frank Helm. André received a very capable portrayal at the hands of Mr. Noel Smith; and Mr. Albert Brierley gave quite a "Private Secretary" bearing to the rôle of the Rev. Roger Minchin; the rest of the cast being in every way satisfactory. "The Amazons" was most cordially received, and "curtains" were frequent. Pinero's work was preceded by "The Twelve Pound Look," J. M. Barrie's writing being explained with most commendable clarity in every part, Kate being specially deserving of praise as played by Mrs. H. T. Bagnall. High-class interval music was provided by Miss A. M. Sharp's well-trained stringed orchestra.

The Actresses' Franchise League will hold a mass meeting at Drury Lane Theatre, by kind permission of Mr. Arthur Collins and Mr. Forbes-Robertson, who is deeply interested in the movement, on Friday afternoon, May 2. The chair will be taken by the Lady Willoughby de Broke, and among the speakers will be Miss Lena Ashwell, Miss Gertrude Elliott, Miss Compton, Miss Eva Moore, Mrs. Madeline Lucette Ryley, Mrs. Arnc[illegible] Sennett, and Miss Irene Vanbrugh.

A FORGOTTEN DRAMATIST.

DEATH OF MR. JOSEPH JOHN DILLEY.

The death of Mr. Joseph John Dilley, which occurred on Saturday last, at his residence, 35, Galpins-road, Norbury, awakens no recollections in the minds of present-day playgoers. Like Merivale and Clement Scott, he was in the Civil Service, and also, like them, was ambitious to achieve fame as a dramatist. Dilley's first effort at writing for the stage was a comedy in two acts, entitled "A Sleeping Hare," which was produced at the Cavendish Rooms in April, 1868, the writer then being thirty. This was followed by "Illusions," another two-act piece, produced at the Charing Cross Theatre (afterwards rechristened the Folly and Toole's) in May, 1870. "Auld Acquaintance," comedy drama in two acts, was produced at the St. George's Hall on May 23, 1878, at an entertainment given by members of the West London Rowing Club, of which the deceased author was a member. The acting-manager of the night thought it necessary to introduce the author of the new piece in a prefatory

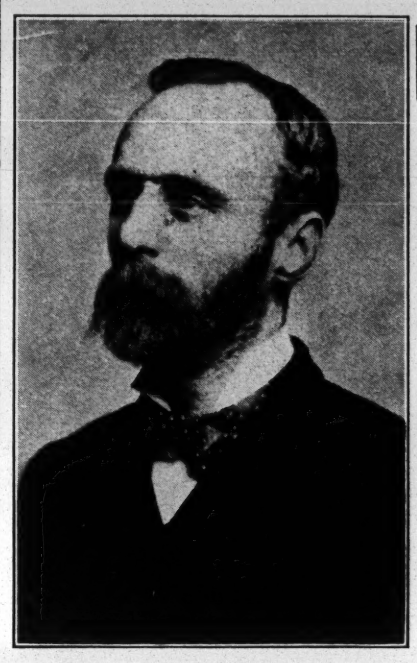

Photo by the Star Photo Co.
THE LATE JOSEPH JOHN DILLEY.

speech to the play, in which the late Mr. F. H. Macklin and his wife, Miss Blanche Henri, played the chief parts.

With the farce "A Highland Fling," produced at the Vaudeville on Jan. 4, 1879, Dilley made his début as a dramatist at a West End theatre. The cast included the late Charles Garthorne, Mr. William Hargreaves, and Miss Myra Holme (now Lady Pinero). His first three-act piece was a farcical comedy, entitled "A Glimpse of Paradise," produced at the Lyric Hall, Ealing. More serious work from his pen followed his collaboration with James Albery, the two combining in a drama, "The Mate of the Montjoy," which gained the second T. P. Cooke prize, but was never produced. With Albery he also wrote "Chiselling," first performed at the Vaudeville in August, 1870, with the late David James in his favourite part of Trotter, the late Lin Rayne as Larkspur, and the late W. H. Stephens as Dr. Stonecrop. The plot of "Chiselling," which was revived at the Gaiety in May, 1886, is identical with that of "Hercules, King of Clubs." With Mr. Lewis Clifton (Lyne) Mr. Dilley wrote "A Military Manœuvre," Vaudeville, Dec. 26, 1879; "Summoned to Court," produced at the Imperial in March, 1880; "Tom Pinch," adapted from "Martin Chuzzlewit," in which Mr. E. S. Willard and Miss Kate Rorke gave delightful performances of Tom and Mary Graham; and "Marjorie," comic opera, produced by Mr. Horace Sedger at the Prince of Wales's, and noted for its charming setting by the late Walter Slaughter. Mr. Dilley's latest plays were written in association with Mary Rowsell, and included "Whips of Steel," a four-act drama (1889) and "Richard's Play," produced in 1891 at Terry's.

We are pleased to hear that Wm. B. Bostock (one of the oldest-established scenic contractors in the provinces) is already busy on pantomime for Christmas at his studio in Manchester. This is the result of his last year's pantomime production. We are given to understand that he intends to excel all his previous efforts of the past twenty years.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped addressed Envelope must be enclosed with application for each Letter. No Circulars or Parcels admitted to this List.

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Dent, Mr. Har
Dix, Miss Dorothy
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Douglas, Mr. Byron
Drew, Mr. John E.
Drury, Miss Lily
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Fink, Miss Edith
Fish, Mr. V.
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Foster, Mr. Chas. B.
Fraser, Miss Dora
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Godfrey, Mr. Arthur
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Gordon Brooke, Mr. J.
Goring, Mr. and Mrs. G.
Graves, Mr. Geo.
Green, Miss Freda
Grenfell, Miss Edith
Grey, Mr. Nixon
Hampson, Mrs. E. A.
Hawkes, Mr. Chester A.
Hawkins, Miss Iris
Hawtrey, Mr. Chas.
Hedderwick, Sisters
Hinchcliffe, Mr. W.
Holden, Mr. Thomas
Holland, Mr. Ellis R.
Holloway, Mr.
Hope, Mr. R.
Hornsey, Mr. Leonard
Howard, Mr. Carl
Humber, Miss Fanny
Inglis, Mr. J. W. T.
Irving, Miss Daisy
Jacobson, Mr. Jesse
Jee, Mr. Harry
Johnson, Mr. E. G.
Kelly, Miss B.
Kendal, Mr. and Mrs.
Lane, Mr. D'Arcy
Lane, Mr. Jack
Lawrence, Mr. Clem
Lee, Miss L.
Leete, Mr. F. D.
Leif, Miss Tiny
Leonard, Mr. Frank
Le Roy, Prof.
Leslie, Miss L.
Lewis, Mr. Arthur
Lind, Miss Letty
Lloyd, Miss Florence
Lockwood, Mr. T. R.
Lorraine, Miss Irma
Lotto, Mr. Ernest
Lowery's Boys and Girls
Ludlow, Mr. Henry
Mac, Mr. Joe
Macinno, Mr. Ewart
Madgewick, Mr. P.
McIntosh, Miss Madge
McLennan, Mr. K. J.
McMikol, Miss Mattie
MacMillan, Miss N.
Manvers, Mr. J.
Marlborough, Miss Leah
Marsden, Mr. Bert
Martin, Mr. R.
Mayne, Miss Clarice
Meredro, Miss M.
Mexicans, The
Moran, Mr. James W.
Nethersole, Miss Olga
Newton, Mr. Chance
Niblo and Spencer
Norman, Mr. Norman V.
Nuku, Mr. H. M.
Olgar, Mr. Chris A.
Ormonde, Miss M.
Osborn, Mr. Chas.
Page, Mr. Ashley
Paul, Mr. T. N.
Pearce, Mr. Laurence
Powell, Mr. Orlando
Preston, Mr. J. F.
Purchase, Mr. A.
Rampling, Mr. George
Raymond, Mr.
Reano, Mr. T. Hayden
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Seymour, Mr. Tom
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Stuart, Mr. Leslie
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Waterfield, Mr. C.
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Willoughby, Mr. Paul
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Yates, Miss Katie
Yates, Miss Mary
Zuma

RE-ADDRESSING.

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Mr. Wordworth Gold, the Korean actor who is playing in "Bought and Paid for" at the New Theatre, was married on Sunday at St. Martin's Church to Miss Rider, a London lady.

On Saturday evening, at the Grand Theatre, Fulham, on the fall of the curtain on "Hindle Wakes," Mr. Joe Hague was called on the stage, when Mr. Norman Clarke (stage-manager), on behalf and in the presence of the members of the company, handed to him a handsome writing-case as a memento of a happy eight months spent with him as their manager, and as an expression of their regret at his departure from them. Mr. Hague also received, as a personal momento from Mr. and Mrs. Ernest E. Imeson, a silver-mounted briar pipe.

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NEW MIDDLESEX THEATRE.

On Monday, the Patriotic Drama, entitled "PAYING THE PRICE."

The intensely interesting play, abounding in the stirring incidents and episodes of the Boer War, aroused the greatest enthusiasm, and the patrons of the Middlesex were not slow to applaud the sentiments introduced by the experienced and clever author, Mr. James Willard. Mr. Willard scored a further success by his realistic and emphatic impersonation of the dual rôles, Lord Delemere, in command of the Queen's Dragoons, and Paul Hartman, of the Foreign Secret Service (half-brothers), admirably contrasted characters, and delineated by Mr. Willard in a masterly manner. Miss Dolly Bishop contributed largely to the success achieved by her bright, intelligent, and vivacious depiction of Doris Delemere, "The Flapper," and won golden opinions from her many admirers. Captain Clinton, V.C., of the Queen's Dragoons, as portrayed by Mr. Edwin Bennett, left nothing to be desired. High honours fell to gifted Miss Grace Illingworth for her forceful embodiment of a difficult part, but her fine grasp of the designing adventuress, Nell Fortescue, a Salome dancer, afterwards Lady Delemere, brought her through triumphantly. Mr. Will Smith worked hard in the part of Hal Vertoone, from South Africa. Jan Vertoone, a Transvaal Boer, as presented by Mr. Frank Woodville, deserves praise. Mr. Henri Dore proved most amusing as the Hon. Cecil Dalrymple, representing the "Daily Wire." Mayer, Boer field cornet, found a capable exponent in Mr. Charles Barnard. Messrs. Charles Bailey (John Dent, Lord Delemere's soldier servant) and F. Beavor (Corporal True, of the Queen's Dragoons) were efficient. Misses Sybil Etherington and Heba Barlow as Mary Esdale (servant) and Nurse Alice (of the British Red Cross) made the utmost of their respective opportunities. Doris Delemere's prize mastiff, the champion canine actor, Tiger, displayed intelligence, and was quite at home, having performed in theatres and music halls over 1,000 times. The staging and dressing of the drama were elaborate and correct, the scenery being supplied by Leolyn Hart, and the uniforms and costumes by John Hyman. The play went with a smoothness which evidenced careful study by the company, under the experienced stage-management of Mr. Charles A. East.

Variety preceded the stronger dramatic fare, and was furnished by John Weil, the Continental talking prestidigitateur, who greatly mystified the audience; Smite and Smote, those two funny ones, who aroused the risible faculties of all present; Kathryn Howard and Billy Harris, in "The Adventures of a Happy Tramp," and an exceptionally fine film, "Woodland streams."

At the Middlesex next week the absorbing drama, "The Coastguard's Daughter," will be staged, while the variety "turns" will include Millie Payne, comedienne; Sisters Royce and Sid, vocalists and dancers; and Torbay, comedy silhouettist.

Read and Reflect - - - -

[COPY.]

To *Wardrobe Dept.,*
Mr. A. W. Fisher, *54, Eastbourne St.,*
Chemical Cleaning Coy. *Liverpool, 2/4/13.*

Dear Sir,—The last five hampers of goods duly arrived and we are very pleased with them. I think the work you have done on our wardrobe extremely satisfactory. The goods have been carefully handled and the charges reasonable. I have great pleasure in telling you this, and shall recommend you in future as well as deal with you myself.—Yours very truly,

D. Carleton Smyth,
Quinlan Opera Company.

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A. W. FISHER (General Manager.) TELEPHONE: 1911 Gerrard (two lines).
TELEGRAMS: "Cleaning," London.

THEATRICAL LAW.

In the Court of Appeal, on Saturday, before Lord Justice Vaughan Williams, Lord Justice Hamilton, and Mr. Justice Bray, an appeal was brought by the defendant in the action of "Davenport v. Faraday," in which the plaintiff, Mrs. Muriel Winifred Davenport, professionally known as Miss Muriel George, had recovered £180 damages for an alleged breach of a theatrical contract in dismissing her during the run of a play. The defendant, Mr. Philip Michael Faraday, a theatrical manager, denied there had been a breach of the contract, and pleaded that he had only exercised his right under the contract to "retire" the plaintiff, and that he had not dismissed her.

Counsel for the defendant, Mr. Lewis Thomas, K.C., and Mr. Percival Clarke; for the plaintiff, Mr. F. Dodd.

The facts, as stated by Mr. Lewis Thomas in his opening, were that in 1911 the defendant proposed to produce at the Lyric Theatre a play entitled "Night Birds." The plaintiff had for some years been a member of Mr. Pélissier's company known as The Follies, and in October, 1911, she was asked by the defendant if she would play the parlourmaid's part in a new production. She agreed, and the defendant entered into a contract engaging her for the run of the piece at £20 a week. The piece was produced on Dec. 30, and the plaintiff, who had attended rehearsals for some five weeks, played the part of Adele. The performance was a great success, and the defendant expressed himself delighted with her performance. On Feb. 16 she received a letter from the defendant, in which he said: "I am very sorry indeed to have to write this letter, but unfortunately sentiment cannot enter into business. Believe me, I am not acting only on my own initiative, but am compelled, because of the taste of the patrons of my theatre, to make a change with regard to your part. I have arranged with Miss Margaret Paton to play at the matinée to-morrow and thereafter. Although I am entitled under Clause 8 of the contract to make an eight weeks' recess, I do not propose to put that into operation immediately, so that you shall suffer no financial loss. I do not know whether you would care to go on tour in 'The Chocolate Soldier,' as I might possibly be able to arrange something for you." The plaintiff was paid her salary to March 1. The piece ran till May 4. The contract was dated October 25, 1911, and provided as follows: Clause 1. The manager engages the professional services of the said artiste to play the part of Adele (in the original of Hederman's) to perform at the Lyric and other West End Theatre . . . . at such times as the said manager may require. Clause 8. The manager shall have the right to make eight weeks recess, either together or separately, during the period of this engagement, and the manager reserves the right to retire the said artiste temporarily for the purpose of exercising his right to such recess, either wholly or from time to time. The jury found for the plaintiff for £180, the amount claimed, and Mr. Justice Bankes entered judgment accordingly, holding that the word "recess" in the contract was used in the wider sense, such as a holiday for all the artistes or the closing of the theatre, and therefore that in the present circumstances the management had not the right claimed under the contract to retire the plaintiff for eight weeks. Counsel argued that the management had the right to retire any particular artiste. He complained that there had been a misdirection on the part of the judge, that issues were left to the jury which were not raised by the pleadings, and that the judge put a wrong interpretation upon the contract.

At the close of the appellant's case the hearing was adjourned.

MR. ROBERT ARTHUR'S AFFAIRS.

Mr. Registrar Hope held a sitting at the London Bankruptcy Court, on the 11th inst., for the public examination of Mr. Robert Arthur, theatrical proprietor and manager, on a statement disclosing gross liabilities £51,374, of which £46,670 were unsecured, and available assets £930. The examination was concluded.

AN ACTOR'S LUGGAGE.

At the Bacup County Court on Tuesday, Granville Milton Collinge, who appears on the stage under the name of Harry Murr, brought an action against the L. and Y. Railway Company to recover the sum of £6 10s., this being the amount alleged to be lost as a result of the railway company's officials refusing to allow him to put his luggage in a van on a train from Manchester to Cockermouth. The amount was made up as follows: loss on the entertainment, £4 5s.; suppers, 10s.; beds and breakfast, £1 5s.

His Honour gave judgment for the defendants, and hoped that the company would forego the costs. He added that there had been some clumsiness on the part of the porter and inspector in not getting the luggage on the train.

A TRUSTEES' ACTION.

Mr. Justice Phillimore on Friday last concluded, in the King's Bench Division, the action in which the trustees of the marriage settlement of Mr. Walter Gibbons—Mr. George Henry Chantrey and another—proceeded against the London Theatre of Varieties, Limited, Charing Cross-road, to recover £286 13s. 4d. due to Mr. Gibbons as director's fees. The defence was that by an agreement Mr. Gibbons had consented to receive payment by instalments of £20 per week, but Mr. Gibbons contested this, and it was claimed on his behalf that he was entitled to recover, and that the company was at the time of the issue of the writ in the action in a position to pay the sum claimed.

For the plaintiffs, Mr. Sankey, K.C., and Mr. McCardie appeared; and the defendant company were represented by Mr. Tindal Atkinson, K.C., and Mr. Harold Brandon.

Mr. Justice Phillimore, on taking his seat, said he had been thinking over the case generally, and the evidence for the defence given by the company's solicitor, Mr. Amery Parkes, and unless Mr. Atkinson was going to add to Mr. Parkes's evidence he saw great difficulty in the way of the defendants in proving the alleged binding agreement of October 4. Even assuming that Mr. Gibbons consented to the arrangement, could that consent be held to mean consent to an indefinite payment of £20 per week?

Mr. Atkinson proceeded to argue that the arrangement of October was far more definite than the arrangement of the previous June. Mr. Gibbons distinctly assented to the arrangement of October, which the defendants now pleaded.

Mr. Justice Phillimore said it seemed to him it was a resolution; he saw no reason to suppose it was an agreement.

After some further discussion, Mr. Parkes went into the witness-box for the conclusion of his cross-examination by Mr. Sankey, and in re-examination he mentioned that Mr. Gibbons sold his interest ultimately for £40,000, this covering the shares and debentures, and the balance of £9,000 remaining out of a debt of £34,000 by the company. Mr. Parkes gave other details of Mr. Gibbons's financial position at this time—referring to his salary, fees, etc., and contrasting that with his prospects in February, 1911 (when witness's scheme to help the company was evolved), suggested that Mr. Gibbons was at least £60,000 better off at the time of the sale of his interest than in February, 1911.

Mr. Charles Gulliver next gave evidence that he was at one time secretary of the company. He became a director in August, 1911, on the proposition of Mr. Gibbons, and he had succeeded Mr. Gibbons at managing-director. With regard to the meeting of Oct. 4, witness said it was Mr. Gibbons himself who suggested that he should be paid his fees at the rate of £20 per week. Alluding to May 17, 1912, when the completion of the sale by Mr. Gibbons was effected, Mr. Gulliver said that, apart from himself, there were present on that occasion, Mr. Gibbons, Mr. Biernstein (acting for him), Mr. Stephens, Mr. Eley, and Mr. Parkes. Mr. Eley (witness said) was a gentleman who had found a large portion of the money to buy Mr. Gibbons out. On that occasion Mr. Gibbons was asked whether, so far as Mr. Stephens was concerned, he would carry out the arrangement to receive £20 per week, and he said, "Yes," and agreed to remain a director for voting purposes. Witness handed a document to Mr. Gibbons embodying the £20 per week proposal, but witness did not see it signed. It was not true to say that Mr. Gibbons on each occasion refused to sign the document.

Mr. Gulliver, in cross-examination, said that Mr. Eley and Mr. Stephens found about £24,000, he found £11,000, and Mr. Parkes £5,000. Witness also said that on April 6, 1911, when Mr. Gibbons was ill, he gave him (Mr. Gulliver) a wide power of attorney, and made him executor to his will.

By permission of the Court, Mr. Sankey called, in further support of the plaintiff's case, Mr. George Sydney Biernstein (co-trustee and co-plaintiff with Mr. Chantrey), who spoke to the events at the meeting when the sale by Mr. Gibbons was completed. The document in regard to the £20 per week proposal was not handed to witness at that meeting.

Cross-examined: It was upon witness's subsequent advice that Mr. Gibbons did not sign it. Mr. Atkinson, addressing his Lordship, said he desired to say, on behalf of the company, that they did not quarrel at all with the trustees, who, of course, had their duties to perform.

He suggested that Mr. Gibbons had not given his frank account that one would have expected in regard to the various incidents. If it became a question between the evidence of Mr. Gibbons and Mr. Parkes, he asked his Lordship to give the balance in favour of Mr. Parkes. Counsel proceeded to review his case and to submit that the agreement pleaded had been made out. He also complained that Mr. Gibbons—who was infinitely better off now than he would have been if the scheme of Mr. Parkes had not been carried out—and put forward a technical defence to the agreement, and there was no legal consideration for the undertaking alleged.

Mr. Gibbons would have practically lost his all but for this scheme, of which the agreement now contended for, was a part. There was clearly ample consideration for the agreement.

Mr. Atkinson, in the middle of his speech, called Mr. Frederick Eley (who had been detained on business) to give evidence. He said he was one of the joint managers of the National Provincial Bank, who had been bankers to the defendant company. Witness was present at the meeting when Mr. Gibbons's sale was completed, and he remembered the matter of Mr. Gibbons's fees being mentioned. Witness understood that Mr. Gibbons's fees were to be paid at £20 per week, and a memorandum was handed to Mr. Gibbons for signature. Mr. Gibbons, asked if he would sign it, nodded assent. Until the claim was made by the trustees, he was not aware that the memorandum had not been signed.

Mr. Atkinson subsequently further submitted that the words, "when the company is in a position to pay," meant when the company could pay all its creditors in full at a particular moment, and did not mean giving a preference to any individual creditor to the detriment of the creditors as a body.

The evidence was that the company could not have paid all its creditors at one moment.

Mr. Justice Phillimore later remarked that he had been puzzling his head to discover why the case had been fought; it seemed to be a costly fight over a small matter.

Mr. Atkinson, said he could assure his Lordship that there were reasons by which his clients had been compelled to defend the case.

After hearing Mr. Sankey, Mr. Justice Phillimore gave judgment in favour of plaintiffs. After expressing some regret that the case should have gone to trial at all, his Lordship said the scheme prepared by Mr. Parkes undoubtedly required some sacrifice on the part of Mr. Gibbons (no doubt to secure ultimately a good result for him), and also forbearance on the part of the other creditors. It was eventually arranged that Mr. Gibbons should allow his claims to stand over for the time being—which had been interpreted to his Lordship as meaning till the company could pay—provided that others in the same position did the same. This agreement of June was for good consideration. The defendants relied on the defence that on Oct. 11 another agreement was come to which varied the old one, and by which Mr. Gibbons consented to take £20 per week if the other creditors consented to take £5 per week, but his Lordship thought it could not be contended that at the time the resolution of Oct. 4 was passed Mr. Gibbons intended to make an agreement. What happened at that meeting was evidence that the company to an extent was in a position to pay the arrears of fees. The only question remaining, was whether the company could pay the total at the time of the issue of the writ. It had been said that the company always had an overdraft at the bank, and that debts were due to be paid, that cheques could not be drawn for, but, as Mr. Sankey pointed out, most commercial companies carried on their business with overdrafts at the bank, secured more or less, and bearing interest at a reasonable rate. The fact remained that the company was progressive and improving, and they were paying now a dividend on their preference shares. His decision was that the company could pay, and there must be judgment for the plaintiffs for the amount claimed and costs. A stay of execution was granted to the defendants upon the terms of the money being paid into court.

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BOLTON.—*If the "act" you refer to is a stage play a copy should be sent seven days before the first acting thereof to the Lord Chamberlain's Office, St. James's Palace, S.W. Fee, if of three or more acts, £2 2s.; if less than three acts, £1 1s.*

CUNNINGHAM (Edinburgh). — *The comedy "Peebles" was produced at the Glasgow Gaiety on Aug. 14, 1882. We have searched the provincial columns of our files for 1887 and 1888 from February to the end of July in each year, and have been unable to find any reference to the above-named play or to "The Parvenu." Was it in the autumn of 1882?*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth, a Marriage, or a Death, or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

MARRIAGES.

BODIE—GARDEN.—At the Registrar's Office, Maidstone, on the 16th inst., Albert Edward Walford Bodie, son of Dr. Walford Bodie, the Manor House, Macduff, to Edyth Garden, youngest daughter of Mr. John Garden, J.P., Greystone House, Banff.

BROADHEAD—WILDMAN.—On April 12, at St. Luke's Church, Torver, by the Rev. Robert Dunn Ellwood, B.A., Percy Baynham Broadhead, of Manchester, to Alice May Wildman, of Torver, Coniston.

DAVIES—BURNETT.—April 12, at St. John's Church, Whetstone, Middlesex by the Rev. W. Griffith, Chaplain of St. Padarn's Welsh Church, Holloway, assisted by the Vicar (the Rev. E. H. Keymer, M.A.), Kitty, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Davies, of Woodside Grange, North Finchley (late of Llanstephan), to Frank Norman, second son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter W. Burnett, of "The Glebe," Sutton, Surrey.

DEATHS.

DILLEY.—April 12, at 35, Galpins-road, Norbury, Joseph John Dilley, Civil Service (retired), aged 74.

FYNE.—In loving memory of my dear wife, Elizabeth Fyne, the wife of Fred Fyne, who passed away April 11. Buried at Tooting Cemetery, April 17. Never forgotten by her husband and little daughter.

HEATH.—Mrs. Lily Heath, departed April 16, 1913, deeply mourned by her daughter, Ida Heath, Mrs. Joe Archer, and her son-in-law, Joe Archer. Rest in peace.

HOLLOWAY.—On April 7, at his residence, Langroyd House, Larkhall-rise, S.W., William John Holloway, formerly of Australia and South Africa.

IN MEMORIAM.

ADAMS.—In ever-loving memory of my darling brother, Albert George Down Adams (Bert Adams), only son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Adams (Cicely Nott), who died April 17, 1904. Ever deeply mourned by his devoted sister, Ada Blanche.

"Sleep, beloved, sleep."

HAMILTON.—In ever loving memory of my dear husband, William Hamilton (W. Hamilton's "Excursions"). Never forgotten by his devoted wife and family.—April 12, 1907.

DE LORME.—In ever affectionate remembrance of Blanche de Lorme, who died April 18, 1911.—Kate.

RUSSELL. — In loving memory of our darling mother, Harriett Ellis Russell, who fell asleep April 20, 1912. Never forgotten by her daughters, Amy, Clara, Maud, and Kitty.

The warp is grey, it has long been spun,
There are tear-stains in each fold.
But through the whole unbroken run
Some threads of purest gold.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish the following ladies and gentlemen many happy returns of the day:—

Helena Millais—Saturday, April 19.
Edith Blanche—Saturday, April 19.
W. H. Bebby—Sunday, April 20.
"Papa" Brown—Monday, April 21.
Frank Harcourt—Monday, April 21.
C. Haddon Chambers—Tuesday, April 22.
Brian Daly—Tuesday, April 22.
Ada Rehan—Tuesday, April 22.
C. Hayden Coffin—Tuesday, April 22.
Amy Coleman—Tuesday, April 22.
Maurice Farkoa—Wednesday, April 23.
Ernest Dottridge—Wednesday, April 23.
W. Scott Phipo—Wednesday, April 23.
Cyril Maude—Thursday, April 24.
Hutin Britton—Thursday, April 24.
J. W. Cordiner—Thursday, April 24.
George Lashwood—Friday, April 25.

The result of the inquest held on Monday on the body of Frances Schmitz, the American dancer who died aboard the liner Oceanic during a voyage from New York, was a verdict of suffocation in an epileptic fit. Mr. Arthur Deagon, a comedian engaged at the London Opera House, stated that he had known Miss Schmitz since 1908, and was on the Oceanic when she died. She had frequently had epileptic fits. The Southampton borough analyst reported that there was no trace of poison, and a telegram was read from the dead actress's mother stating that she did not suspect foul play.

A writer in 1828 observes: "Butler, the author of 'Hudibras,' has a very coarse simile in which he says 'The English write plays as they feed pigs in Westphalia'; his words would be likely to offend 'ears polite,' and therefore we shall only observe, that he says the Spanish invent plays, the French copy from the Spanish, and the English from the French; this was to show the little originality we possessed; if the charge was applicable in Butler's time, we fear it is much more so now, for not only do we translate and transmute by wholesale from the French, but a new source has opened to our English playwrights in the popular novels, which, thanks to the genius beyond the Tweed, we have at least twice a year."

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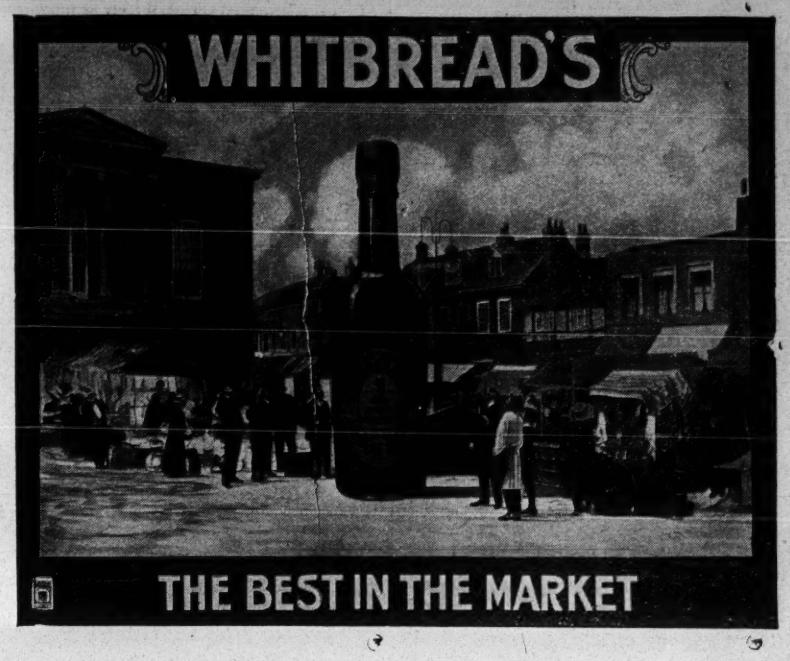
—*Tempest, Act ii., Scene ii.*



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—*Henry VI., Act ii., Scene iii.*

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Preceded at 8.20, by a Domestic Episode,
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MURIEL HUDSON, RENA PARKER,
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By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (London), Solicitor.

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OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

THE ENCORE, May 26, 1910.

We have just received the third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's book on Theatrical and Musical Law, which is published at "The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand. Since the second edition of his work was published—nine years—many changes have taken place in the laws relating to entertainments, and these have necessitated a considerable enlargement of the volume. Full texts of the recent Berlin Convention and the United States Copyright Law are included in this edition, in which is also published the awards governing the relations between artistes, agents, and managers. A number of new cases are also cited illustrating the effects of the barring clause. The Musical Copyright Act, children on the stage, the sketch question, and the Workmen's Compensation Act are all fully dealt with and in a readable and easy style, as free as possible from legal phraseology and technicalities. It is a legal axiom that ignorance of the law is no excuse for breaking it, and, therefore, it behoves everyone connected with the entertainment world to make himself acquainted with the law as it stands in relation to the profession or business in which he may be engaged. To every one connected with the Drama or Variety Mr. Strong's book is a necessity, and this last edition is so comprehensive that anyone who consults it can have no possible excuse for infringing the law on the ground of ignorance. The work will, no doubt, have a ready and rapid sale for all artistes, managers, and agents should have it at hand.

THE ERA, July 30, 1910.

Important changes in the law affecting the amusement professions have been made since the issue, nine years ago, of the second edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable book on Theatrical and Musical Law, and the third edition, just published, comes opportunely to hand. The work has been greatly enlarged, upwards of sixty additional pages being required to accommodate the mass of new information. The publication has been brought as nearly as possible up to date, and within its pages will be found analyses of important measures which have been adopted both in Parliament and out. There is, for instance, the full text of the recent Berlin Convention, and the new Copyright Act of the United States. The awards governing the relations between managers, artistes, and agents are reproduced in their entirety, and a number of fresh cases illustrating the effect of the barring clauses is included.
The Musical Copyright Act, by which tardy justice was secured to song-writers and publishers, is given in full, and a digest of the measure, bringing out its salient features, is also printed. A whole chapter is now devoted to the subject of children on the stage, and the important question of the Workmen's Compensation Act is exhaustively dealt with. All the decisions of the Courts affecting theatres and music halls are referred to, many notable cases being recalled. The law governing dramatic and musical copyright is defined as clearly as its intricacies will allow, and a reliable indication of the methods to be adopted in securing protection is afforded. The progress made in the question of licensing has been too slow to allow of more than a reproduction of the terms of agreement entered into between the representatives of theatres and music halls regarding sketches, but pronouncements under that heading are numerous.

STAR.

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artiste must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.

REFEREE, May 15, 1910.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 1913.

THE REJECTED DRAFT CONTRACT.

It is with great disappointment that all who wish well to manager and actor received the news of the rejection by the West End Society of Managers of the proposed standard Draft Contract, which had been prepared by the Actors' Association, and submitted to the Managers' Society through their secretary, Mr. J. E. VEDRENNE. Up till quite recently hopes had been entertained that the Society would accept the contract. Its solicitor had, we believe, pronounced in favour of it, and so had the special committee which had been formed to examine and report on it. We understand that the leading actor-managers of London were inclined to accept the Draft Contract, but that they were out-numbered by the bulk of the Society at its meeting.

It is difficult to imagine what clause of the contract is objected to. Possibly it is the section which deals with payment for rehearsals, and says that all artists engaged at a salary of £5 a week or under shall receive salary at the rate of 25 per cent., with a minimum of £1, after rehearsals have been in progress for a fortnight.

This question of payment for rehearsals has been "in the air" for some time past. It is being agitated upon in America, where the abuse has become so glaring that a society has been formed chiefly for the purpose of dealing with it. As far as regards the leading managers of London the question has been settled already. Sir HERBERT TREE and Sir GEORGE ALEXANDER both pay for rehearsals, and so do other leading managers in the metropolis.

There has, indeed, been a real change of opinion in all just and generous minds on this matter of rehearsals. In the old irregular, slip-shod days managers used the shallow excuse: "Oh, if we paid for rehearsals the artists would drag them out, and the piece would never be ready." But in those days the whole system of rehearsals was bad. Very often the parts were not given out until the first rehearsal, so that the artists were encouraged to "pick up" their rôles at rehearsal instead of studying them. Then there was a great deal of unpunctuality, and the zealous actor who "turned up to time" was punished by having to await the arrival of his lazier comrades, and even of the author and the stage-manager. We will not say that this state of things does not exist now in certain theatres and under certain managements; but it is the exception and not the rule. And even in the old days we have seldom seen any deliberate intention on the part of artists to protract rehearsals. They are the drudgery of the art of acting; they are terribly wearisome; and the "slackest" artist is eager for them to end and the nightly performances to begin. If rehearsals are "lingered out" it is usually from want of comprehension on the part of the performers, and, sometimes, of want of skill on the part of the author and stage-manager.

Another item in the contract which may possibly help to account for its rejection is the note which states that the Council of the Actors' Association consider that all difficulties would vanish if the principle were adopted of "payment by performance." No one can reasonably object to this statement. An actor told us the other day that whenever he was negotiating an engagement and a manager asked him how much salary he required, he replied, "How much work do you want? Will you expect me to perform six times a week or eight?" And he regulated his "screw" according to the answer.

The situation as it stands between the Actors' Association and the West End Managers' Society is most unsatisfactory. The reply of the latter through Mr. VEDRENNE tells nothing, except that the Draft Contract has been rejected. It does not condescend to explain the reasons of the rejection. We quite understand the feeling of the just and generous manager who never has any trouble with his artists, because he treats them well and pays them properly. He objects to have his business interfered with; he has his own contract, which he finds suits his purpose well enough, and he feels just a little offended by having another submitted to him as a model. It is not, however, to improve these white sheep that the Draft Contract is intended, but to defend the average actor and actress against the black sheep which exist in every flock.

Matters are at present at a deadlock between the Actors' Association and the West End Managers' Society, but we do not despair of a compromise and an amicable arrangement being arrived at. There are only three methods of attaining an object—coercion, conciliation, and agitation. We do not counsel the first, and the second often fails entirely; but the third, persistently pursued, generally effects its purpose. The matter is practically in the hands of the actors and actresses themselves. Are they sufficiently in earnest about this Draft Contract and its principles to make the necessary sacrifices—to join the Actors' Association in large numbers, and so strengthen the hands of the able secretary, Mr. DUNCAN YOUNG, in his diplomatic efforts? Are they prepared to hold meetings in favour of payment for rehearsals and payment by performance? If not, the rejection of the West End Society of Managers must stand, and an opportunity of settling a sore question pass away. This question of payment for rehearsals is not a general idea like a minimum wage; it is a definite and concrete detail of every-day business, and one on which the heads of the profession are agreed. The Actors' Association is justifying its name by bringing the question forward. Will the profession at large support it?

A CENSORED PLAY AT GLASGOW.

On Thursday, April 10, through the enterprise and energy of Mr. Alfred Wareing, Glasgow playgoers were afforded an opportunity of seeing Mr. George Bernard Shaw's play, "Mrs. Warren's Profession," acted by members of the Repertory Company at the Royalty Theatre. As the play is under the ban of the Censor, a certain amount of strategy was required to enable the performance to take place. A society was formed, entitled "The Glasgow Playgoers' League," the half-yearly subscription being sixpence; the necessary qualification for membership was the purchase of five coupons for any part of the theatre during Mr. Wareing's season; and the avowed object of the club was the production of this or any other censored play, such as Maeterlinck's "Monna Vanna," Housman's "Pains and Penalties," etc. And all these elaborate precautions had to be taken before playgoers could be allowed to see a play which would have been passed to-day without a moment's hesitation, dealing, as it does, with a serious subject in a serious manner.

On Thursday the Royalty was filled to its capacity, and the success of the play was such, that in addition to the matinée arranged for Saturday, a third performance on Tuesday had to be announced owing to the demand for seats. The cast was as follows:—

Praed	Mr. Owen Roughwood
Sir George Crofts	Mr. Richard Fielding
Rev. Samuel Gardner	Mr. George Elton
Frank	Mr. Frederic Sargent
Vivie	Miss Helen Brown
Mrs. Warren	Miss Ruth Mackay

The play was produced by Mr. Kenelm Foss, and from the first scene to the last it was excellently acted. Miss Ruth Mackay as Mrs. Warren made a powerful impression, and her make-up, the minute detail of business introduced, and the varying light and shade of the many moods of the character, all proved that the actress had devoted much study to the part, with complete success. In a different type of part, Miss Helen Brown as Vivienne was equally successful, and the two female characters afforded a striking contrast. Mr. Richard Fielding as Sir George Crofts gave a clever and finished portrait of the elderly "bad baronet"; Mr. George Elton was amusing as the Rev. Samuel Gardner; and his son, Frank, was acted with infinite self-assurance by Mr. Frederic Sargent. Though only intended to be played twice here, the play was staged with every care and that attention to detail which is a characteristic of all the Repertory productions. The principals were called at the end of each act, Miss Ruth Mackay being specially favoured, and at the end of the play, in response to calls for a speech, Mr. Alfred Wareing appeared and bowed his acknowledgments, whilst he prevailed upon Miss Mackay to thank the audience in a few words.

CHARLES GARTHORNE'S WIDOW.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—The votes for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution will be shortly issued. May I, therefore, take this opportunity of reminding your Masonic readers that we must combine and ensure the election of this lady at the forthcoming election? You have already very kindly informed your readers of the sad plight to which Mrs. Garthorne is reduced, and I invite the co-operation of those members of the theatrical profession who may have a vote or votes, or who may influence others they know who may have votes, to send them on behalf of Mrs. Garthorne and, by obtaining the annuity, alleviate her distress.

Votes may be sent to me direct, or to the editor of the "Referee."—Yours faithfully,

JAMES W. MATHEWS.

Duke of York's Theatre.

QUEEN'S HALL ORCHESTRA.

The Queen's Hall Orchestra has been engaged for the South Wales Musical Festival next week. On Monday, April 21, at Swansea, Sir Henry J. Wood will conduct the Swansea and District Male Voice Choir in Mendelssohn's "Antigone." On April 22, at Neath, Granville Bantock's "Omar Khayyam" (Part I.) will be performed by the Neath Choral Society, under the conductorship of Mr. T. Hopkin Evans. On April 23, at Mountain Ash, Sir Edward Elgar will conduct "King Olaf," the tour terminating on April 24 at Newport, where Mr. A. E. Sims will conduct the Newport Choral Society in "The Dream of Gerontius."

The Indian, Art, Dramatic, and Friendly Society is making preparations to present the historical Indian play, "Ratnavali," or "A Necklace," on May 15, at Cosmopolis, preceded by "Maharani of Arakan."

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"L'EXILEE."

Play in Four Acts, by M. Kistemaeckers, Produced at the Comédie-des-Champs-Elysées, on April 4.

Princess Gina	Mlle. Marthe Brandès
Jacqueline	Mlle. Monna Delza
Comtesse de Charmieu	Mlle. Darcourt
Prince Franz Rodolph	M. Dumény
Henry Virey	M. Louis Gauthier
Streck	M. Arquillière
Prince Léopold	M. Maury
Professor Jouck	M. Beaulieu
Flamine	M. Arvel
Miarn	M. Marcel André

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, Thursday, April 10.—Paris has a new theatre, built and managed by M. Léon Poirier, and situated next to M. Gabriel Anstruc's house. It is tastefully decorated, and there are panels by Vuillard that took the fancy of connoisseurs and of those who imagine they know something about painting. M. Kistemaeckers has laid the scene of his new venture at a Court where everything has a mediæval flavour. There is Franz Rodolph, heir to the throne, a brutal and debauched scoundrel; Gina, his wife, who hates him; Streck, the prince's right hand, devoted to his master like a fierce bulldog. Around these three gravitate Prince Léopold, Franz Rodolph's brother, a kind-hearted man, but without any energy; two Frenchwomen, Comtesse de Charmieu and her niece, Jacqueline; and Henry Virey, the tutor, a fascinating youth beloved by Gina. When the story opens, Gina is anxious to elope with Henry and "live her own life," but she soon discovers that it would be hopeless to attempt it. The people want to free themselves from the iron rule that crushes them to death, and Gina and Henry side with the revolutionists, giving them secret aid. But the terrible Streck watches, and, having arrested Virey, he discovers the proofs of his guilt. Gina tries hard to save her lover, but when she accidentally learns that Henry is unfaithful to her and has lost his heart to Jacqueline, she receives such a shock that she is struck blind. In the final act the revolutionists have the upper hand. The wicked Prince Franz Rodolph has lost his life, Henry has escaped from prison, but Gina—who, thanks to an operation, has recovered her sight—shams blindness so as to be able to watch Henry and Jacqueline. She discovers them together, but she generously forgives them, and he and the two Frenchwomen depart, whilst Gina remains behind to "assist the people" who require her guidance. The work was fairly well acted, and was well received.

"BLANCHE CALINE."

Play in Three Acts, by M. Pierre Frondaie. Produced at the Theatre Michel, on April 6.

Blanche Caline	Mlle. Michelle
Antonine	Mlle. Guett
Mme. Chéry	Mlle. Nau
Rachel de Cerne	Mlle Guett
Alice	Mlle. Roch
Laforet	M. Dubosc
Marceval	M. Lefaur
Meunier	M. Maupré
Brinberg	M. Bélières
Gaston	M. Erard

This work is by M. Frondaie, the author of "L'Homme qui Assassina," which had such a glorious run at the Antoine Theatre. His new venture, I am sorry to say, is not so good. It is the story of Blanche Caline and two gentlemen, one of whom is her lover, and the other a platonic friend. Blanche is 20 years old, and has since many months been the mistress of André Meunier, who calls himself a painter, but in reality is an empty-headed, lazy young loafer, without an atom of moral sense. At curtain rise we are in a secluded village near Fontainebleau. André is, as he says, looking for work, in the hope of not finding any, and Blanche is living under the protection of Laforet, a man about town, a millionaire, who has lost his middle-aged heart to Blanche. He pays for her stay, he has luncheon and dinner with her, and is quite content to enjoy her company, well knowing that she is too much in love with André to allow him, Laforet, to have the key of her bedroom. One day André puts in an appearance, and Laforet has the satisfaction of seeing the young couple bill and coo, and as André has only a couple of half-crowns in his pocket the good-natured Laforet also pays this gentleman's hotel bill. For all that, Laforet is no fool. He dimly foresees that one day that unholy liaison will come to an end, and that the moment will come when he will be able to reap the reward for all his kindness and generosity. His calculation turns out right. In the second act we find André and Blanche in Paris, in the house of a villainous old woman from whom they have rented two rooms. They owe three weeks' rent, and have not a penny to buy food, and as Laforet is not there to undo his purse-strings for them, the lovers are in great trouble. At that critical moment Blanche reproaches André in bitter terms that he does not make a serious attempt to extricate them from their horrible position. Stung to the quick, the youth seizes his hat and stick, runs downstairs, and returns an hour later flourishing a 500 franc banknote. During his absence Laforet arrives, and, seeing that his little Blanche is in such trouble, he offers to help her. The girl feels tempted to accept his help, but at that moment André makes his triumphant entrée with the banknote, and, proud of all this wealth, he insults Laforet and shows him the door. After the latter has left the room Blanche's curiosity is aroused, and she wants to know how André has "earned" this money. After much pressure, the irresponsible youth tells her everything, and the girl, shaking with indignation, hears that an elderly lady has for a long time past persecuted him with her attentions. So far, he has always avoided her, but this time, with famine staring them in the face, he has called on the elderly lady, who, at his request, has "advanced" him that sum, and his smile indicates that according to his ideas he has "earned" that money. With a shriek of horror, Blanche rushes out of the room, and in the final act we see her in Laforet's chambers. She has run to him for protection, but is secretly still thinking of André. A ring at the bell is heard, and André enters. He has come to claim his little mistress, but shows himself in such a contemptible light that the girl turns away from him for good, and throws herself into Laforet's arms. Laforet has won the battle. The work was creditably acted by a good scratch company.

BIRMINGHAM REPERTORY THEATRE.

The somewhat lugubrious "Tragedy of Nan," by John Masefield, which has been played this week, offers an excellent opportunity for the display of talented acting, to which the patrons of this little theatre are habituated. Miss Mildred Forster certainly scored as Mrs. Pargetter, and succeeded in suggesting the "nagging" cruelty of the woman almost to repulsion. Miss Margaret Dudley was all that could be desired as the girl, Jenny Pargetter. The William Pargetter of Mr. Ribton Haines was like all his work—a thorough and conscientious character-study. Mr. Felix Aylmer's conception of the avaricious young farmer, Dick Gurvil, bore the unmistakable signs of a well-thought-out and earnest impersonation. Mr. Ivor Barnard is generally called upon for "old man" character parts, and his performance of Gaffer Pearce is highly commendable. The characters of the Rev. Mr. Drew and Captain Dixon were adequately interpreted by Messrs. Kenneth Goode and Thomas Foden.

PLAYGOERS' CLUB DINNER.

The Playgoers were unfortunate on Sunday in having two prominent guests—Mr. Marshall Hall and Miss Marie Tempest—absent through indisposition at their twenty-ninth annual dinner at the Hotel Cecil. The chair had to be taken in Mr. Hall's absence by Mr. Henry Rees (vice-president). Among those present were Mr. Gerald du Maurier, Miss Muriel Beaumont, Mrs. Marshall Hall, Miss Hopper, Mr. J. T. Grein, Mr. Louis E. Harfield, Mr. W. Graham Browne, Mr. Osman Edwards, Mr. Carl Hentschel, Miss Nina Boucicault, Mr. Frank Desprez, Miss Mignon O'Doherty, Mr. Harry W. Devonshire, Mr. W. Clarkson, Miss Clarice Mayne, Mr. R. D. Bennett, Sir G. Power, Mr. M. J. Manning, Mr. A. E. Whitehouse, Dr. G. Kaufman, Mr. J. Sharpe (hon. secretary), Mr. W. Sparks (hon. treasurer), and Mr. C. E. B. Kibblewhite (assistant hon. secretary), and thirty delegates of the British Playgoers' Federation.

In response to the toast of "The Drama," proposed by Mr. Osman Edwards, who alluded to its robust, exuberant health leading to overflows into music hall and cinema. After twenty years' lecturing, discussing, in private societies, the public has discovered the play to be more important than the actor. It no longer made periodical pilgrimages to the shrines of favourites, but judged more for itself, and cultivated the open mind. London was no longer the seat of the theatrical oracle, but the clearing-house of the drama. The best plays of the year had been written in Ireland, America, Manchester, and China. There would be always a niche for Mr. du Maurier—an English nut with French kernel—with the best acting qualities of both races.

Mr. Gerald du Maurier, in response, said: Ladies and Gentlemen,—Thank you very much for the kind way you have received the toast, so delightfully proposed by Mr. Osman Edwards. The kind things he has said about me to-night have very little truth in them. A man said to me this morning, "I see you have to make a speech about the drama to-night. Don't you hate doing that sort of thing?" I said, "Loathe it." "Then why do it?" he asked. "Because I cannot get out of it," I replied, and that is the truth, ladies and gentlemen. I have been paid a great compliment in being asked to your annual dinner to reply to the chief toast of the evening, and wouldn't get out of it if I could. On the other hand, there remains the unfortunate fact that I must attempt to say a few bright things about the drama.

Those of you who know me will not expect me to say anything profoundly wise, or anything profoundly witty. Those who do not must not hope for a speech of rich material borrowed for the occasion. I must ask them to be content with a few homespun words. As regards the drama—the successful drama, that is to say—I cannot see that it has changed much since the days of Shakespeare. The curtain still goes up and down at stated intervals, the characters have their entrances and their exits. The telephone, it is true, has softened the crudeness of soliloquy, but the stories of love rewarded and baffled hate, mischievous plot and counter-plot, fraud detected and virtue triumphant, still hold the stage, and will always do so as long as people have healthy appetites and healthy minds. "Twelfth Night" produced and played sumptuously at His Majesty's, or produced and played simply at the Savoy, were equally delightful memories as far as I am concerned, and equally successful as far as the public were concerned. A good deal of fuss is made nowadays about producing, but it is very difficult to spoil a good play or make a bad one. If a stone is good, what matter the setting? And whether you bring your characters on over the footlights, or through the ceiling, or in the conventional way through doors, it doesn't really make much difference. The greatest service the producer can do the author is to let the play play itself; that is to say, if the author knows his job. It is his duty to supply the complete score: the company is the orchestra, and the producer is the conductor; only he has to deal with heart strings instead of fiddle strings, and they are very difficult to control. Experience teaches, we know, but a modern dramatist often finds that the bloom of inexperience is more valuable to him than the ripeness of knowledge.

There has been a new movement among playgoers which takes place on Saturdays at about five o'clock—they go out of town for the week-end—but the old movement into the stalls a quarter of an hour after the curtain goes up still holds good.

There has been an attempted new movement among the younger playwrights, those coming men (the where-do-they-all-go-to type) to snapshot life, and put the negative on the stage without touching it up, and a certain section of the public—not a very large one—has raved about it. "The Slice of Life" movement. The curtain goes up on a plain, unattractive woman with a bad cold in the head, scrubbing the floor. This is the leading lady. Enter to her her next door neighbour, equally unattractive. They talk for a quarter of an hour or so upon disease, when the husband kicks open the door, the worse for liquor, and proceeds to curse everybody and everything. The curtain generally descends with his little daughter—who is consumptive—coming in with a can of beer, and being immediately knocked down with a blow of the fist. People say, "How true, this is what we want."

I received a letter the other day with a photograph inset. On the top Mr. So-and-So, author of the following plays:—"The Demon," "Noughts and Crosses," and "Twice Bitten." He asked for an appointment. I gave him one. He wished to sell me a play or two which he had by him. He asked me if I wanted an 8 o'clock, 8.30, or 9 o'clock play. I said, "I will take a bit of 8.30 with you," and he described one that he had. Before he continued I said, "Let me see, your play 'The Demon'; where was that produced?" He said, "Oh, as a matter of fact, it was not so much produced as tried. The little village that I sometimes go to in the summer has a little hall, and we put it up there for a night, and tried it on the dog, so to speak." I said, "And 'Noughts and Crosses'?" He said, "Ah, that is going to be done on tour by a man who thinks very highly of it before coming to town." "And 'Twice Bitten'?" He said, "There is a friend of mine very anxious to start a repertory theatre at Plymouth, and he wants to get a lot of material." I congratulated him heartily on having three plays practically running at the same time, and asked him what class of piece he had in his mind for me. He said, "The public are getting tired of plays dealing with dukes and ladies of title, which actors are not able to represent. They want vital stuff. The play that I have in my mind for you opens with the stage in darkness. The first scene is a wretched little bedroom on the top floor of a lodging-house in Bloomsbury. The door opens—it is midnight—and, holding a candle, there enters a poor little maid-of-all-work, tired out after the toil of the day. She is so tired that she goes to bed in full sight of the audience without taking any of her clothes off." At that moment my cue for going on the stage came, and I have been unable to make an appointment to hear the rest of the piece. I gather he was a slice-of-life man.

Ladies and gentlemen, as a manager I believe in the play that is commercially successful. I believe in a tale and the telling of it. Some dramatists give you a splendid tale, and do not tell it very well. One can get home on it. Others have very little tale to tell, but, such as it is, they tell it beautifully; you can get home on that, too, but when you have the two combined you are on a big winner. Then there is the dramatist who possesses the great gift of charm. I had 360 plays sent to me last year, none of which possessed any of these attributes, and I shall probably get the same this year.

The toast of "The British Playgoers' Federation" was proposed by the chairman, and responded to by Mr. J. T. Grein; "The Visitors" were toasted by Mr. A. M. Latham, and answered for by Dr. Barclay Barron; and Mr. F. J. Atkins proposed 'The Health of the Playgoers' Club," Mr. Henry Rees responding. The following ladies and gentlemen took part in the concert:—Miss Olive Fox, Miss Clarice Mayne, Misses Lorna and Toots Pounds, Mr. P. Procter Brown, Mr. E. Thornley Dodge, Mr. Ernest Hastings, Mr. Randell Jackson, Mr. Nelson Keys, Mr. J. W. Tate, and Mr. Albert Whelan. The accompanist was Mr. W. Mansell Stevens.

BRITISH PLAYGOERS' FEDERATION.

The British Playgoers' Federation held its second annual conference at the Playgoers' Club, London, on Saturday afternoon. The president, Mr. J. T. Grein, of London, occupied the chair. The formation of a Federation Touring Company was discussed. The object of this scheme is the organisation of a touring company of selected actors and actresses, with a producer, director, business-manager, &c., and to arrange for visits to various societies on convenient dates. The scheme provides for the selection of plays for representation, which, in the ordinary course of events, are not produced by either the ordinary commercial theatre or the repertory theatre, and the inclusion in the repertoire of at least one unacted play by either a known or unknown author, English or foreign. It was stated that the cost of a first-class company of sixteen artistes, including travelling expenses and royalties, would not exceed £100 a week.

A resolution was proposed on behalf of the Sheffield Club to the effect that the Federation should arrange forthwith for the production of plays of national interest, ancient and modern, which were not seen on the commercial and repertory stage, and also for the production of such other plays as specified by any contributory society.

A vote was taken on the principle involved in the resolution, and this was defeated by twelve votes to nine.

Several Manchester delegates spoke in support of a resolution favouring the opinion that steps should be taken to ensure the booking of seats in all parts of theatres and other places of amusement. The resolution was carried.

NEW PLAYS IN PARIS.

"Les Aveux Indiscrets," comic opera, by Monsigny; Arts, March 3.
"Un Joli Garçon," one act, by André Mycho; Grand-Guignol, March 11.
"Le Croissant Noir," one act, by Jean Lallier; Grand-Guignol, March 11.
"Les Ficelles," one act, by Giacosa; Grand-Guignol, March 11.
"S.O.S.," drama, two acts, by Charles Muller and M. Level; Grand-Guignol, March 11.
"Hélène Hardouin," comedy, five acts, by Alfred Capus; Vaudeville, March 14.
"Le Carillonneur, opera-comique, in four acts and six tableaux, by Georges Rodenbach, music by Xavier Leroux; Opéra-Comique, March 20.
"Le Minaret," comedy, three acts, by Jacques Richepin; Renaissance, March 20.
"Le Secret," comedy, three acts, by Henry Bernstein; Bouffes-Parisiens, March 22.
"La Semaine Folle," comedy, four acts, by Abel Hermant; Athénée, March 28.
"La Chaste Suzanne," operetta, adapted from "The Girl in the Taxi," by Antony Mars and Maurice Desvaillières; Apollo, March 29.

THE PEDGRIFT TESTIMONIAL.

A testimonial is being prepared for Mr. F. H. Pedgrift, who joined the staff of this paper in 1875, and retired recently from the position of its business manager. As publisher of the paper, acting under the directions of the late Editor, Mr. Edward Ledger, Mr. Pedgrift did good service in connection with the various charities and subscriptions promoted and assisted by "The Era"; and on Mr. Ledger's retirement in 1904 Mr. Pedgrift became honorary treasurer of several of the funds which had been started by this paper. He was especially interested in the Music Hall Home, after it was founded by Mr. Dan Leno and Mr. Cecil Merrie in 1897, and devoted much attention to the "Shilling Fund," which was of so much assistance in supplying funds for the institution. He also gave cordial co-operation to the passing of the Musical Piracy Act by the exertions of Mr. T. P. O'Connor. When the Showmen's Guild was founded by some leading showmen in 1888, Mr. Pedgrift connected himself prominently with the movement. He was also much interested in the annual Theatrical Sports. We have received, up to the present, the following subscriptions to the testimonial:—

	£	s.	d.
Sir Arthur Pinero	5	5	0
Theatre Royal, Drury-lane, Ltd.	5	0	0
W. H. Kendall, Esq.	3	3	0
Sir Squire Bancroft	2	2	0
John Hyman, Esq.	2	2	0
Percy B. Broadhead, Esq.	2	2	0
Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.	2	2	0
Oswald Stoll, Esq.	2	2	0
Messrs. H. and M. Rayne	2	2	0
John E. Lawson, Esq.	2	0	0
W. W. Kelly, Esq.	1	1	0
Percy Hutchison, Esq.	1	1	0
Albert A. Strong, Esq.	1	1	0
Graham Moffat, Esq.	1	1	0
Edward Compton, Esq.	1	1	0
Will Smithson, Esq.	1	1	0
J. Martin Harvey, Esq.	1	1	0
Cyril Maude, Esq.	1	1	0
Harry Barnard, Esq.	1	1	0
W. Clarkson, Esq.	1	1	0
Messrs. Webb Bros.	1	1	0
C. I. Coltson, Esq.	1	1	0
George Rayne, Esq.	1	1	0
Dion Boucicault, Esq.	1	1	0
William Burchill, Esq.	1	1	0
Rev. T. Horne	1	1	0
J. F. Elliston, Esq.	1	1	0
Pat Doherty, Esq.	1	1	0
H. G. Dudley Bennett, Esq.	1	1	0
Quinton McPherson, Esq.	1	1	0
Miss Phyllis Broughton	1	1	0
Justin Huntley McCarthy, Esq.	1	1	0
W. Payne Seddon, Esq.	1	1	0
George Green, Esq.	1	1	0
W. Goldston, Esq.	10	6	
Harry Nicholls, Esq.	10	6	
W. W. Boughton, Esq.	10	6	
Fisher White, Esq.	10	6	
Charles Harrington, Esq.	10	6	
Douglas Stuart, Esq.	10	6	
Robert Grey, Esq.	5	0	

Mr. Alfred Barnard is the hon. treasurer of the Fund, which is being organised by Mr. Duncan Young, the secretary of the Actors' Association, to whom subscriptions may also be sent.

Estelle Stead-Farmer Skein commenced their partnership with a great reception at the Theatre Royal, Margate, on Monday night. They are playing to good business.

VARIETY GOSSIP

Every artiste who has subscribed, either on cards, or by means of personal donations, to the Music Hall Home, is particularly requested to attend the extraordinary general meeting to be held at the Three Stags, Kennington-road, on Friday next at 3 o'clock, when the resolution for the amalgamation of the Music Hall Home and the Institution at Brinsworth will be submitted.

The meetings in connection with amendments to the Award of 1907 are to commence on Thursday next, April 24, and any manager who wishes to appear at the enquiry is advised to write to the Arbitrator, Sir George Askwith, Chief Industrial Commissioner's Department, Gwydyr House, Whitehall, London, S.W.

Mr. Rutland Barrington will appear at the London Pavilion on Whit Monday as the Bishop in Malcolm Watson's clever one-act piece, "The Conversion of Nat Sturge." The piece was produced for the first time in the halls at the Palace about a couple of years ago. Mr. Charles Danvers will play the burglar, Nat.

Wilkie Bard will produce at the Tivoli on Monday a new song scena entitled "Chrysanthemum." In this Mr. Bard represents a very much married man, who has brought home in the early hours a bunch of chrysanthemums as a peace offering to his spouse. Unfortunately, he finds it a very difficult word to pronounce at that time, and funny complications ensue, the nature of which it would be hardly fair to expose beforehand.

The Duke of Argyll, K.G., has kindly promised to be present at the benefit matinée at the Oxford on May 8, promoted by the Islington Charities Committee in aid of the funds of the Great Northern Central Hospital.

Mr. Alfred Butt will present next Monday Mme. Pavlova in a répertoire consisting entirely of novelties. The most important of them is "Les Préludes de Liszt," a dance poem suggested to the great Hungarian composer by the "Dedication" of Lamartine. It should be noted that whereas in the original the triumph of Death provided the final note, Liszt, with a more hopeful outlook, concludes with a joyous *leit motiv* symbolising the all-conquering power of Love. The piece, which proved the sensation of Mme. Pavlova's recent season in Berlin, was produced by the brilliant Michael Fokine. Pavlova will be associated with M. Novikoff, her partner in many former triumphs, and a company of twenty-two dancers.

In addition to "Les Préludes de Liszt," Mme. Pavlova's programme will consist of the following novelties: "La Danse Caucasienne" (Glinka), for five gentlemen; the Adagio from "Raymonda" (Glazounov), for Mme. Pavlova and M. Novikoff; the Minuet of Paderewski, for M. Zaylich and Mlle. Gaschewska; the Danse de Printemps (Eric Mayer-Helmund), for eight ladies and two gentlemen, and a Spanish dance for M. Novikoff, M. Zaylich, and Mme. Pavlova. During the brief interval between the series of dances above enumerated and "Les Preludes de Liszt," M. D'Agaroff, a distinguished Russian baritone, will sing a selection of Slav folk songs. There will be a special Pavlova matinée every Wednesday.

Mme. Sumiko, the famous Japanese prima donna soprano of the Imperial Opera House, Tokio, made her English variety début at the Manchester Hippodrome on Monday. Her répertoire consists mainly of songs culled from "The Geisha," "The Mikado," and other operas, while not the least interesting item will be a rag-time number which she sings both in English and Japanese. She brings with her B. S. Takaori, her musical director, formerly a director of the Tokio Opera, as well as a "rickshaw" man who belonged to her household in Japan.

In appearance Sumiko is a frail little woman with an attractive face and wonderful eyes. She is vivacious and witty, and speaks English with remarkable purity, explaining that she studied English in order to sing "Mme. Butterfly" in that tongue. The interesting experiment was tried in Tokio of singing the opera in English and Japanese, the English characters singing in English and the others in Japanese, with the exception of Mme. Butterfly herself, who sang both in Japanese and English according to whether she addressed an English or Japanese character. It is Mme. Sumiko's desire, by the way, to repeat the experiment in this country.

For the new Alhambra revue to be produced about the first week in May Miss Ella Retford has been secured. The clever little Irish girl is like a sunburst of joy on the stage, and, given the requisite opportunity, she will become as popular at the older Leicester-square house as Miss Unity More, another clever colleen, is at the Empire. The latest engagement of Messrs. Charlot and Leveaux is Miss Violet Englefield, who appeared for a whole year as "The Bad Girl of the Family" at the Aldwych. In the Alhambra revue her comedy powers will be utilised to advantage, and she should go far.

In an introduction to the play, "Benjamin Disraeli"—which, by the way, is to be produced at the Margate Hippodrome on May 5—we read, "No man was more completely understood by his friends or misunderstood by his enemies than Disraeli." He was neither "the superlative Hebrew conjurer," spoken of by Carlyle, nor was he the acme of political wisdom. John Lawson, in his impersonation, will steer between the two extremes, and give us the man in moments of self-revelation, as well as the statesman who united the qualities of broad Imperialism with the keen business instincts of the Jew.

Owing to the sudden indisposition of Mr. Wilfrid Douthitt, Miss Florence Smithson was compelled, on Monday, to relinquish her Indian sketch, "A Jungle Romance," and revert to the drawing-room form of entertainment in which she was so popular last year. Miss Smithson, who was in fine voice, gave Howard Talbot's "My heart has left me lonely," in which she scored such a success in Drury Lane panto., the "Waltz Song" from "Tom Jones" and Guy D'Hardelot's "My message," for which she received an immense ovation. Fortunately Mr. Douthitt's indisposition is not serious. He has received some important offers, including an invitation to sing at the great festival at Ghent.

South African papers to hand record a pretty compliment to Miss Cressie Leonard, the well-known music hall artiste, who is now touring in the sub-continent. At the St. Patrick's Day banquet, held by the Irish residents of Cape Town, Miss Leonard was the guest of the evening, and when she entered the room the whole company rose and sang "Eileen Alannah" in her honour. The programme contained the announcement in Gaelic that a hundred thousand welcomes went out to her from her countrymen and countrywomen in South Africa. Miss Leonard is, of course, a Dublin girl.

Dr. Walford Bodie, the well-known bloodless surgeon and entertainer, travelled from Nottingham to his home, the Manor House, Macduff, last week, where he underwent a serious operation for internal ulcers. He was attended by three specialists, and was under chloroform for nearly two hours. The operation was highly successful, and Dr. Bodie is making rapid progress towards recovery. He hopes to resume his professional work in May.

The death of Mr. Carl Hagenbeck will in no way affect the arrangements for the production of the Carl Hagenbeck Wonder Zoo and Circus at Olympia next Christmas. The plans will be carried out by the late Mr. Hagenbeck's two sons, who are partners in the Hamburg Zoo, in conjunction with Mr. C. B. Cochran.

The New Palace Theatre of Varieties, Plymouth, the Great Western Hotel, and the Grand Theatre, which were offered on the 10th inst., at the Mart by Messrs. Marks and Barley, by order of the Court of Chancery, have passed into the hands of Mr. Thomas Hoyle, of the Golden Lion Hotel, Old Town-street, Plymouth. Something like £130,000 was originally spent on the Palace Theatre and Great Western Hotel. The first bid for the whole of the properties was £20,000. The figure quickly rose to £33,000, which was the bid of Mr. J. Lyons, of George-street, Plymouth. Competition sent the offers by £500 bids up to £41,000, at which price the property was knocked down to Mr. Hoyle.

We understand that the new proprietor cannot take over the houses until Whitsuntide, when the leases granted to Mr. Langdon Lee and Mr. Walter de Frece will expire. It is the intention of Mr. Hoyle to close the Palace for a week or two, during which upwards of £1,000 will be spent in an elaborate scheme of renovation and redecoration. Plans for the future of the Grand have not been definitely determined. Mr. Hoyle has appointed Mr. Philip H. Hockaday to the position of general-manager.

The new Empire, Rotherham, which, towards the end of the year, will be completed, will be on a site adjoining the Crown Hotel, High-street, Rotherham, and its erection involves an expenditure of nearly £40,000, for the Corporation spent something like £15,000 in acquiring the site. The promoters (Messrs. W. Haffety and J. Steeples) will, we understand, have an outlay of about £25,000. The result will be the addition of another handsome block of buildings in the centre of the town, a new theatre on most modern lines, and an up-to-date billiard saloon.

The façade to High-street is to be in a severe classical style, the material for facing being glazed terra cotta. The shops will have a frontage of about 19ft. and a depth of 40ft., being well lighted. The entrance hall to theatre is of ample proportions, and the access to circle is by a marble staircase of very few steps. The entrance from Moorgate-street to circle and stalls is at the circle level, obviating any steps to circle altogether, and provides separate entrance to orchestra stalls. The entrances to pit and gallery are placed in Talbot-lane, and both are of easy access. The house will seat about 2,500. The architects are Chadwick and Watson, of Leeds.

At the last moment the production of the new revue, "Come Over Here," had to be postponed until this evening. It was found that the artesian well could not supply water sufficiently quickly to fill the large lake into which the stage is converted in the second act. The extra work entailed on the pumps caused them to break, and the whole of the basement of the theatre beneath the stage had become flooded. On Monday members of the fire brigade were employed to pump out the water. In the meantime hydrants connected with the water mains are being installed.

The London Opera House management have decided to incorporate into the revue different English artistes from time to time, and the first of these will be Miss Clarice Mayne, who will brighten the new production with her excellent mimicry. She and Mr. Franklyn Bellamy are the only English artistes in the production.

Mr. Sam Richards, of 37B, Electric-avenue, Brixton, is bringing an action for libel against "John Bull" for statements made in an article headed "Footlights and Filth," printed in this day's issue of that journal.

Mr. Howard Innes, the well-known society entertainer, has been appointed general-manager of the new Victoria Gardens and Pavilion which have been erected by the local authority on the promenade at New Brighton. It is intended to provide high-class vaudeville companies during the summer season, and there will be a first-class orchestra. The Gardens are to be opened on May 3 by Lord Derby. What with the proposed erection of two new variety theatres, the sinking of a marine lake, and other attractions, New Brighton is by way of becoming a second Blackpool.

Miss Beatrice Murray, the music hall artiste, who in a claim for breach of contract against Moss' Empires, Limited, alleged that her contract was cancelled because she could not obey an order of the manager of the Empire Music Hall, Leeds, to change the order of her appearance in the programme, won her case, and was awarded £45 damages on Friday last. Mr. Fred Kitchen, in his evidence, said he saw the plaintiff on the stairs, and said, "What's the matter, little woman?" She replied, "I am a bit upset. They have altered my turn, and I'm not going on." He had said the same thing himself dozens of times, but he had never had his contract cancelled, except once in Italy. Somebody must be first.

A welcome recruit to the variety stage has been found in Florence Kendall, who made her début at the Empire, Camberwell, two weeks ago, and has now been secured by John Lawson for his recital tour, which commences at the Opera House, Dudley, on Monday next. Possessed of a charming voice and pleasing stage presence, Miss Kendall is being rapidly booked up both in London and the provinces.

Music lovers on Monday, at the Liverpool Empire, had a real feast of high-class music, entitled "The Golden Harpist." The production has been arranged by that great *melteur-en-scène* Mr. Frank Parker; the vocal and choral numbers have been orchestrated by Mr. Carl Kiefert, one of the most popular composers of our time; and scenery has been specially painted by Messrs. Ernest Howard and Philip Howden. In this beautiful tabloid oratorio, if we may so call it, there appear eight girls, trained at Stedman's. Professor Haas, who is responsible for writing the choral numbers, also personally directs the whole, this being his first appearance in England. He has conducted his own works for the past three years in Berlin. The chief point of interest is the lady, who prefers to be known as "The Golden Harpist." The scene may best be described as representing an old-time Valentine, the harpist occupying the centre of the picture, which also includes a chorus of dainty fairy figures artistically posed.

Mr. Albert de Courville sailed for America on Thursday, and Mr. Harry Lauder returns the first week in May, when he will appear at the Tivoli. He will not take part in any revue.

Miss Alma Stanley, who recently produced Mr. Emil Lock's dramatic episode, "A China Orange," at the Bedford, will start on tour with that playlet on Whitsun Monday, opening at the Hippodrome, Bristol.

Miss Lulu Valli will produce at the Tivoli on Monday a musical fantasy entitled "A Dream in an Old Garden," and Les Danseurs Futuristes—Miss Billie Hamilton and Henri de Bray—will also appear.

Miss Maie Ash and Mr. Fred Allandale appear for the first time in London in their new musical comedy interlude, by Worton David and Bert Lee, entitled "The Soldier and the Girl," at the Chiswick Empire on Monday next.

"Susannah, the Comedy Queen," which tells a story of the stage, is a new and original sketch by John Jackson, which Mrs. Geo. Thursby will present at the Islington Empire on Monday next. Miss Hetta Bartlett, in the title-rôle, will be supported by a company of nine ladies and two gentlemen.

When Miss Smithson arrived home from the Coliseum the other night she remembered she had left a box of chocolates in her taxi, and send her maid back. The girl returned with a heavy parcel which contained a new six-chambered revolver. Not being a militant suffragette Miss Florence Smithson has more use for the chocolates. If the owner will send the number of the revolver to the Coliseum he can have it back in exchange for the chocolates.

Mr. R. P. Weston, the well-known song writer, lost his father, who was in his eightieth year, on Sunday. The fact that he was in close attendance during a critical period, he hopes, will excuse his apparent neglect of correspondence.

The site chosen for the proposed Bromley Hippodrome is between the White Hart Hotel and the London and County Bank, High-street. Forty thousand shares of 5s. each will be issued to the public. It is proposed to work the establishment on the twice-nightly system. The house is to be commenced in July and opened at Christmas.

At the Edmonton Empire on Monday next, April 21, Mr. Harry Bawn is arranging a grand variety and rag-time song competition, and is offering to the successful competitors one week's engagement at his popular Edmonton house. The competition is open to either ladies or gentlemen, and is undoubtedly a chance for local talent. Entrants may do any kind of performance they desire.

Mr. F. V. St. Clair concluded last week the London Syndicate Halls. He has been re-booked by Mr. Zeitlin and by Mr. Chas. Gulliver, till 1916, owing to his enormous success.

Monday last was the tenth anniversary of the opening of the Chelsea Palace, and also marked the eighth year of Mr. J. Norman Berlin's management. The excellence of the business, owing to the high-class character of the performances, has placed the hall in the forefront of suburban vaudeville theatres, and the gratifying success during that decade is one we heartily congratulate the management on.

Mr. Yorke Stephens is producing a new American sketch, entitled "Once a Thief," written by the American author, Henry Blossom (the author of "Checkers"), at the Empress Theatre, Brixton, next Monday. The character of Matty will be played by Mr. Yorke Stephens, and that of Mother Munchenheim by Miss Helen Leyton (Mrs. Yorke Stephens). Miss Hilda Moore will appear as Flora Sacola, a seamstress. The action of the sketch is placed in New York.

Valazzi, a fine juggler, is a practical and enthusiastic airman, and so many exaggerated accounts of his recent fall near Hendon Aerodrome have appeared that it is just as well to state that he is all right, but just as a precaution will rest for a day or two on account of a bruised leg. He first fell from a height of 250ft. on to a tree, then from its boughs and through the wings of his monoplane, finally finding himself in a pond a few feet away, hardly hurt at all, each successive obstacle having deadened the fall.

Valazzi will appear in August next at the Shrewsbury Gala, where he will do his extraordinary juggling turn on the stage, and several flights in his monoplane. This is a double turn that copyists will not find it easy to imitate. Valazzi will be at the Alhambra shortly.

An interesting story of Eugene Stratton's shoes is told by Mr. Buchanan Taylor. They have been in 'Gene's possession for forty-two years, and he is now wearing them in his impersonation of Uncle Jasper. One day the owner sent his assistant with them to a local cobbler in the Midlands to have a patch put upon them. The cobbler looked them over for a moment and then flung them through the doorway, saying scornfully: "I am a cobbler, not a saddler." Stratton would not part with them for their weight in gold.

A musical symphony might be written round Dick Knowles's white trousers. To be appropriate, it should be in rag-time, for on the last occasion that we saw those immaculate white ducks "whiskers" were obtruding themselves over the shabby pair of flap shoes. Then Dick's crush hat, which never "caves" in—a delicate compliment, no doubt, to the Stars and Stripes—vies in interest with Harry Ford's topper or Chirgwin's stovepipe.

While on the subject of the clothes of the comedian, we may recount a little story. A struggling comic singer, while on a "props" acquiring expedition, came across a Hebraic dealer selling shabby garments from a street stall. After a good deal of haggling the singer bought a coat for 5s. 6d. On taking it home and thoroughly examining it fore and aft, he found that it was moth-eaten. The next day he took the coat back to the dealer. "This coat that I bought of you yesterday has got the moth!" "Hath it?" was the reply. Well, what d'you ekthpect for five and thikthpenth—*butterflieth*?"

In the House of Commons on Monday, Mr. Newman (U., Enfield) asked the Home Secretary whether his attention had been directed to a recent legal decision that theatre queues constituted an unwarrantable use and obstruction of the highway, amounting in law to a public nuisance; and whether he would instruct the police authorities to disperse any such queues as might hereafter be formed. Mr. McKenna, in reply, stated that he was informed that the decision referred to was being appealed against. When the final judgment was given he would be prepared to answer the question if Mr. Newman would put it again.

FEDERATION AND FUNDS.

M.H.A.R.A.

Mr. Stanley J. Damerell occupied the chair at the usual weekly meeting of the Executive Committee on Wednesday afternoon, at the offices. There were also present Messrs. Wm. Welsh, Harry Gribben, T. C. Callaghan, Cecil Rutland, Syd Walker (hon. trustee), Harry Falls, Marriott Edgar, Edwin Barwick, Lieut. Albini (V.F.), and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary). The weekly financial statement, showing 55 new members and a cash total of £75 7s., was passed.

Music Hall Home.

The thanks of the committee of the Music Hall Home are hereby tendered to the directors of the Tottenham Hotspur Football Club for cheque for £161 5s. 11d., being the amount allotted to the Music Hall Home as the result of the charity football match on March 6. An extraordinary general meeting of the subscribers of the Home will be held on Friday, April 25, at the Three Stags, 69, Kennington-road, S.E., at three o'clock, for 3.30 p.m., when a resolution will be put forward to the effect that the Music Hall Home shall be amalgamated with the Variety Artistes' Benevolent Fund and Institution.

Beneficent Order of Terriers.

Mr. Tom E. Dean was initiated into the mysteries of the Order on Sunday last. The ceremony was performed by Terrier Chris Baker, W.T., assisted by Terrier Jimmy Guidery, V.T., and Organist Terrier Arthur Were. Applications for membership have been received from Victor Andre (Les Andres), Thomas J. Dowson (first notice), Sam Stern (third notice), and Harry Gribben (final notice).

At the meeting on Sunday last, Terrier Billy Day acted as W.I., and Terrier Fred Day as Y.B. A hearty welcome was extended to Terriers Lester Card, Harry Gribben, Frank Boyce, Harry Falls, Ben Whiteley, Fred Day, George Herd, and Syd Walker upon their reappearance in the kennel.

Terrier Halma is in the General Hospital, Birmingham, Ward 6, and will be pleased to see Terriers working in the town.

A special general meeting of the above Order will be held at the Three Stags Hotel on Sunday next, at 6.30, to consider the question of admitting performers over the age of 45, as members.

Music Hall Ladies' Guild.

Miss Melinda May, secretary of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, on behalf of the committee, thanks the following:—Miss Lily Hyde, cheque for £2 10s., result of concert given on board the Kenilworth Castle en route for Johannesburg. Miss Hyde (of Hyde and Cody Trio) desires through our columns to thank Mr. Fred Hyde, Mr. Frank Lynn, Miss Florence Smithers, Mr. Dacray, Miss Lilian Arnold, and Miss Margery Clark, who were all on the programme.

The collection was made by Mr. Frank Taylor. Thanks are also due to Mr. Cyrno Bell (donation), 5s.; Doctor Heekes at Barnes, for attending one of our cases free; Miss Amy Roberts, stage costume (per Miss Irene Rose); Mme. A. E. Borel (Paris), six hospital letters and useful box of clothing; 10 pairs of stage shoes, and other useful articles (Anonymous).

It is the intention of the Guild to send away some poor professional children for a holiday during the summer months. Will anyone help us?

Congratulations are being showered on Mr. Percy B. Broadhead on his marriage last Saturday to Miss Alice May Wildman, the ceremony taking place at St. Luke's Church, Torver, near Coniston, the bride's home in the Lake District. We add our own to the many felicitations received by the popular Percy.

Last week Miss Lillie Langtry, the original electric spark, was working six turns nightly, and matinées. Lillie sang no fewer than seventy-six songs and did thirty-three dances, and felt just as bright at the end of the week as she did at the start. She is returning to Australia in a few weeks' time. Mr. George Barclay will look after her business during her absence.

Miss Nannie Fineberg, who scored such a success at the Camberwell Empire in the sketch, "The Shoplifter," is a daughter of Joe Cheevers, Irish comedian (of Cheevers and Kennedy). Miss Fineberg has been mistaken for an American, but she was born in London, and is proud of being an Englishwoman.

The stay of Hengler's "In the Balkans" Company at the Manchester Hippodrome has had a pretty sequel, for on Thursday at the All Saints' Registry Office a double wedding of members of the company took place. The contracting parties were Mr. Charles Burns Conkie and Miss Winifred Marie Evans; and Mr. Frederick John Blakeney and Miss Maude Stevens.

The members of the "In the Balkans" Company turned out forty or fifty strong, and there was a gay procession to the registry office, a number of the company appearing on horseback. Mrs. Conkie is a member of the clever dancing troupe associated with the company, and is a sister of the famous Will Evans. Her husband is a young Glasgow horseman. Mr Blakeney is also a horseman in the company, and his wife is a Manchester lady. The happy couples took their usual parts in Messrs. Hengler's clever spectacle on Thursday evening.

Before Mr. Walter Graham built up a big reputation as a human marionette, he had had much experience as a comedian, and to his power of comic gesture and his power of keen observation is due the success of his marionette show—a success which has extended to two hemispheres. Since we last enjoyed it, Mr. Graham has vastly improved it by a splendid new fit-up, the work of Bruce Smith, of Drury Lane. In the first part we see the dingy music hall of the old days, with the music hall chairman and waiter. The picture changes to the modern marble palace, with real heads in the side boxes. Graham, in this elaborate and wonderful setting of his fine act, has excelled all his previous efforts.

George E. Belmont writes us re the late Slade Murray: "I think there must be some mistake regarding Slade Murray's age, for it was as far back as the year 1877, when my partner and I (Brothers Belmont) sang and danced two nights a week at the Jolly Light Horse Cave of Harmony, Barmondsey, and after our turn did a 'sweet Nobberini' as remuneration for services rendered. Slade Murray was then vice-chairman and George Daughters chairman. From this free-and-easy temple of song we first embarked in the profession as real live pros. at Crowder's, Greenwich, having been recommended as 'likely goods' by the worthy chairman and vice of the said Jolly Light Horse."

Canon Sharrock (Salford Cathedral) remarked at the Catholic Stage Guild meeting at the Gaiety, Manchester, on April 10, how edified he had been by the large number of music hall artistes who attended the half-past six mass in the cathedral on Sunday morning. Other clerical speakers were Father Sebastian Gates, O.P., Father Henry Day, S.J., Father T. Kelly, S.J., and Father George Nicholson, C.SS.R.

ACTS, ARTISTES, AND AGENTS.

Mr. H. B. Marinelli sailed on Wednesday on the Kaiser Wilhelm II. for New York, where he will remain for two or three weeks.

A new variety agency is to be opened immediately with offices at Cranbourn Chambers, 20, Cranbourn Street, W.C., under the title of Goldstein and Allen. Mr. A. Goldstein, one of the partners, has just concluded an engagement extending over three years, with Mr. Will Collins, in the capacity of booking manager. Previous to this Mr. Goldstein was associated with Mr. Walter de Frece in the booking department.

Messrs. Goldstein and Allen will interest themselves in all kinds of acts both for London and the provinces, and the office will be conducted on the most up-to-date principles.

Per the R.M.S. Kinfauns Castle, on Saturday, 19th (to-day), will sail the Collins Trio, who will open at the Empire, Johannesburg, for Messrs. Hymans, Ltd., and Williams and Segal and Bert Gilbert, who will tour the Palladium Theatres Circuit, South Africa. These artistes were booked through the agency of Will Collins and Co.

James Stewart and Elsie Kerry sailed by R.M.S. Saxon last Saturday to fulfil engagements on the Africa's Amalgamated Circuit, and next Saturday Mr. Rufe Naylor will despatch Forsyth and Boyne in comedy sketch, "A Sister to Assist 'Er"; also the Two Le Roys, for the same tour.

The Cape Town press describes the Pirmani Troupe as the best act of its kind that has ever played the Tivoli Theatre, and enormous business was done during the whole week of their appearance. They afterwards left for East London, and Cape Town patrons are promised a return visit at the end of the Amalgamated tour.

The Barts Trio (flying acrobats and wire performers), who have just returned from a world's tour embracing America, Australia, and Africa, will open in London in a fortnight's time. Mr. Rufe Naylor is handling the act, and reckons it a big winner.

Quite a bunch of artistes returned this last week after playing the Africa's Amalgamated Tour, some of them playing as much as sixteen weeks, but one and all speak very highly of their treatment on the circuit. The grand climate is also a special attraction, and the majority of them are looking forward to a return engagement.

Mr. Jack Goodson, variety agent, of 16, Green-street, Leicester-square, writes:—"I have just been informed by letter from Miss Gladys Hooley that there is someone calling himself by the name of Stewart who is supposed to represent Jack Goodson, Limited, and that he has been informing people that he is my brother. I have no knowledge of this gentleman, and I have no representative."

Mr. Jimmy Athlone opened a fortnight's engagement at the London Pavilion on Monday in his highly successful and original act, "Gold." Mr. Athlone's business is in the hands of Mr. David Hart.

The Sisters Gaye, the dainty comediennes and dancers, after their phenomenal successes as Girl and Boy in Pantomime, and a long tour in the provinces, are appearing at the Canterbury next week, the booking being arranged by Frankish and Parkinson, Waldorf Chambers, Aldwych, W.C.

Mr. Frank Rubens, the enterprising variety, theatrical, and concert agent, has now removed his offices from 20, Cranbourn-street to more commodious premises at 23, Neal-street, Long Acre. Mr. Rubens has just added to his many business activities by establishing at his new address an academy of dancing in conjunction with the well-known producer and ballet master, Signor Victor Chiado, who was for several years associated with Messrs. Howard and Wyndham. Signor Chiado will be remembered as the producer of "La Poupée" and "The Gay Parisienne."

Miss Adèle Levey writes: "I inserted four advertisements in your Wednesday and Saturday editions, and you will be pleased to hear that I have some fine offers." Miss Levey will be telling her stories on May 8 at the Oxford matinée, where she will wear some chic costumes. Miss Maie Hoey will dance at the same matinée.

Little Betty Renee, the clever child dancer who was a success recently in pantomime at Birmingham, made her first appearance in town at the Bedford on Monday, when she scored a success with her toe-dancing. She is well schooled in her art, and should have a successful career before her, for she is a graceful little lady, and is evidently most painstaking; and, since genius is said to be the art of taking infinite pains, Betty may rank as a genius.

Mr. Jack Green will produce at the Empire, Camberwell, on Monday an entirely new and original mystical musical comedy, in three scenes, entitled "Visions of a Night," by Charles Stanley Self. The cast includes the following artistes: Miss Lily Vane, Miss Dolly Vernon, Miss D. Franks, Mr. J. Scott Turner, Mr. Leslie Crowther, and Mr. Jack Green, supported by a fully efficient chorus.

The Musical Eltons, who play seventeen instruments, and are acrobatic violinists, have been away from this country about four years, during which period they have toured on the Harry Rickards and other circuits. Besides every part of Australia, they have visited the remote regions of New Caledonia, where Fred and Grace Elton, the two chiefs of the company, completely won over the French colonists by their tactful adoption of an Anglo-French patois, which went down immensely well. Fred Elton is a comedian, dancer and whistler, as well as a musician.

Mr. George Egbert, variety agent, Mr. Arthur Rigby, music hall artiste, and Mr. Sidney Walter Winter, proprietor of the Royal Hippodrome, Eastbourne, were three of five defendants before Mr. Justice Bailhache in the King's Bench Division on Thursday in a claim brought by Mr. Cecil Masey, a young architect, of Holles-street, Cavendish-square. Plaintiff claimed for fees for architectural services rendered in connection with a scheme for building a music hall in Penge in 1911. It was stated that plaintiff had been given to understand from the outset that the scheme was a purely speculative one, and that Mr. Masey was only to be remunerated if it materialised.

After hearing the evidence, Mr. Justice Bailhache said he held that Messrs. Egbert and Rigby only were promoters of the scheme, and that there was no case against Mr. Winter and the other two defendants. His Lordship subsequently found that plaintiff was first employed on the terms that it was a matter of speculation, and that no circumstances had occurred hereafter to alter the situation. There would, therefore, be judgment for the defendants, with costs.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

Seaside pierrots and summer buskers should at once set about providing themselves with an equipment that will mean affluence to them during the season, and perhaps a transfer to the music halls ere winter sets in. The proper equipment is to be found at Feldman's, 2 and 3, Arthur-street, where an embarrassment of riches in the shape of a mammoth assortment of real song-gems awaits the artiste who pays a visit to the emporium, or who from a distance orders from a well-arranged catalogue.

The new revue at the Empire Theatre, "All the Winners," is most appropriately named, and it may be stated that Feldman furnishes that theatre with the revue title, and with all the principal melodies comprised in the sketch, for the second time. Ten melodies that we shall shortly hear everywhere emanate from the Arthur-street house. Seymour Hicks introduces "Be my little baby bumble bee," which is destined to become epidemic in the near future, while his other great hits, including "The rag-time express," belong to Feldman. Lionel Mackinder scores heavily in "The epidemic rag"; and Miss Vera Maxwell, gowned in a Spanish costume, with a chorus similarly dressed, makes an enormous hit with "My raggiadore." Such familiar strains as "Oh, you beautiful doll," "Rum-tum-tiddle," "Sumurun," "I want to be in Dixie," have, of course, Feldman writ all over them, and, in fact, Arthur-street would seem for the nonce to be transferred to the Leicester-square vicinity, and more especially so as the Hippodrome building is in close proximity to this world-renowned theatrical area.

A second edition of the successful Hippodrome revue, "Hullo, Rag-time!" includes a further selection of Feldman's publications. For Miss Ethel Levey the Arthur-street house has supplied "The rag-time Suffragette" and "Sumurun" numbers; and for Miss Shirley Kellogg, "When the midnight choo-choo leaves for Alabam" and "Who were you with last night?" The famous writers, Messrs. Williams and Ayer, gave the coming hit, "Snooky Ookums," prior to their departure for the States, and created a veritable sensation with it. Before many weeks elapse we are certain of a "Snooky Ookums" craze, and we would strongly advise artistes who wish to be up to date to now avail themselves of the opportunity of securing from the house of Feldman a song that is almost certain to prove a money-making "riot."

Miss Myra Hammon has returned to town after her colossal triumph at the Alexandra, Birmingham, and local music hall, and enthusiastically recounts her tremendous success with Feldman's new ballad, "When I lost you," which this charming artiste produced for the first time last week, and created an instantaneous success with it. Miss Hammon starts an extensive tour of the provinces, and will feature Feldman's songs in her delightful act with Miss Alice Wyatt, another artiste who sang the Arthur-street songs in pantomime at Bradford, where she returns next season. No finer principal boys than Mines. Hammon and Wyatt could be found throughout the country, and the best proof of this is that they both have been re-booked by their respective managers for next season.

That brightest of comediennes, Miss Irene Dillon, is playing her last week in town at the Coliseum prior to sailing for South Africa on May 3. The rapid strides this young artiste has made since her first appearance in this country is certainly remarkable. She has been inundated with offers for all kinds of parts, and the day cannot be long deferred when she will be playing leading rôles in the West End of London. Miss Dillon possesses not only a wonderful individuality, but has a remarkably fine voice, and dances her way into thunders of applause. With all these accomplishments, it is little wonder that she is in such great demand, and Messrs. B. Feldman and Co. are again to be congratulated on having such a wonderfully artistic exponent of their publications.

London is to again have the pleasure of listening to one of the youngest and most charming recruits to vaudeville in Miss Ivey Latimer, who appears on Monday at Wood Green, and the following week at the Palace. Miss Latimer has a gorgeously well trained voice, and is singing Feldman's beautiful ballads. "In the garden of my heart" and "My hero" from "The Chocolate Soldier," for which she receives an ovation everywhere. Miss Latimer has in active study Feldman's great Irish gem, "Mother Machree," and when she produces it another triumph will be secured by both youthful singer and successful publishers. Miss Latimer is undoubtedly a great acquisition to the music halls: and the Arthur-street firm are once more happy in the selection of an exponent to exploit their songs.

Back again after a most successful provincial tour, Miss Daisy James opens at the Oxford next week, and will specially feature Feldman's latest songs. Miss James has been creating a furore on tour with "I want to be in Dixie" and "On the Mississippi," and is very loth to have to say good-bye to the former. However, with Feldman's latest Irving Berlin coming craze, "Snooky Ookums," Miss James has an excellent successor, and Londoners will have an opportunity of hearing this dainty artiste's conception of the song, which doubtless will hasten its possibilities as the season's most popular triumph.

Fields and Fields, who are due to open at the Metropolitan on May 5 next, have been, and are still, scoring magnificent successes in Glasgow and the West of Scotland. We have not heard such thunders of applause for a long time as that which nightly greeted this popular couple at the Lyceum, Glasgow, during their stay there. "The Mississipni dip" and "Take me back to the garden of love" are special favourites in a répertoire largely, if not wholly, composed of Feldman songs. When we mention that this excellent turn is booked up to 1918, we are paying a distinct compliment to the public taste in the matter of performers and songs alike. The proposition of Feldman songs featured by Fields and Fields proves that these artistes know their business, and, incidentally, shows the public in the light of intelligent musical judges.

The success which attended Miss Josephine Davis and Billy Geller at the Tivoli and Metropolitan is being repeated at the Empire, Chiswick, this week, where the popular couple are being received with every demonstration of approval. "The midnight choo choo" is nightly rousing the audience to spontaneous exclamations of delight, and its popularity is only rivalled by another number from the same rich musical mine (Feldman's). This number is "Snooky Ookums," one of those really smart pieces for which the Arthur-street house is justly famed.

The Stoll Suburban Houses.—The most attractive features at the Stoll suburban halls next week are George Robey and Marie Dainton (Hackney); Mark Sheridan and Selbit's Shadow People (Shepherd's Bush); Frageon, Betty Barclay, and Footgers (Chiswick); and Fred Karno's "The Hydro" and the Three Rascals (Wood Green).

FELDMAN'S STAR SONGSTRESS

SAILS FOR SOUTH AFRICA May 3

WITH WHEN THE MIDNIGHT CHOO-CHOO LEAVES FOR ALABAM.

ON THE MISSISSIPPI.

THAT MYSTERIOUS RAG.

SNOOKY OOKUMS.

I'M AFRAID PRETTY MAID I'M AFRAID.

Miss Irene Dillon

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"THE WEDNESDAY ERA" SONG, SKETCH AND PATTER BUREAU.

The following are extracts from some of the letters received by "The Wednesday Era," and show that "The Wednesday Era" Song, Sketch, and Patter Bureau is just what is urgently needed in the profession:—

"I am certain this will prove an undisguised blessing to struggling playwrights like myself, who have merit, but neither influence nor name."

"I am delighted to see your notice in to-day's issue, and shall be glad to receive full particulars. It is what is wanted, I feel confident, and deserves every success."

"I am pleased to see your kindly interest in forming a bureau for the use of young authors and composers."

"I wish you all success in your new departure. I feel sure it will supply a long-felt want."

"I think it a splendid idea, and hope it will be a success, as I think it is greatly needed."

Full particulars of "The Wednesday Era" Song, Sketch, and Patter Bureau may be obtained, post free, on application to the Secretary, "The Wednesday Era," 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

VAUDEVILLE AVIATION SUNDAY AT HENDON.

In view of the success attendant upon the series of Theatrical Aviation Sundays organised in conjunction with the Grahame-White Aviation Company, held at Hendon, last year, a Vaudeville Aviation Sunday will be held on May 18 at Hendon, under the auspices of "The Era" and the Management of the London Aerodrome.

A small committee composed of ladies and gentlemen interested in the subject (comprised, as yet, of Captain Arthur Wood, Captain Henry Green, D.S.O., Countess Maschgo) is being formed for the purpose of organising the arrangements; and the first meeting will be held at "The Era" office on the afternoon of Friday, April 25.

It is proposed that a collection shall be made at Hendon by leading members of the profession on behalf of the Vaudeville Charities.

Flights will be made during the afternoon by various well-known members of the profession. A military band will be in attendance, and tables can be engaged in the reserved enclosure for parties desiring tea. An interesting function of this character will, without doubt, attract a very large assembly of spectators.

A theatrical aviation Sunday, under the auspices of "The Era" and the Management of the London Aerodrome, has been arranged to be held at Hendon on June 8.

THE L.C.C. AND AMUSEMENTS.

The London County Council resumed its meetings after the Easter recess on Tuesday at the County Hall, Spring Gardens, Mr. Cyril Cobb (chairman) presiding.

LOTTERIES PROHIBITED.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee reported as follows:—Our attention was recently drawn to a practice obtaining in some places of public entertainment under which the holders of programmes bearing certain numbers were awarded sums of money. We communicated with the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis on the subject, and we have since considered a letter from him stating that steps have been taken to stop the practice at each of the places in question, and, further, that the police will continue to give attention to the matter in order that any infringement of the law may be duly dealt with.

NEW CINEMATOGRAPH HALL.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee reported that drawings had been submitted by Messrs. Adams and Coles, showing a proposed amended arrangement of a cinematograph hall proposed to be erected at 98, Commercial-road, in respect of which it is proposed to apply for a music licence. As the amended arrangements appeared to be satisfactory, the Committee recommended the Council to grant the usual certificate, upon certain conditions being complied with.

Agreed to.

PROPOSALS APPROVED.

The Committee also recommended approval of a proposal to adapt the Blechynden Hall, Blechynden-street, N. Kensington, as a cinematograph hall, and also a proposal to form an entrance from High-street, Putney, to the Putney Hippodrome, Felsham-road.

The recommendations were approved.

STRAND WIDENING AND THE TIVOLI.

A report was received from the Improvements Committee recommending that the proposed widening of the Strand between Adam-street and Durham House-street should be proceeded with as soon as the Council has approved the necessary estimate, and voted the necessary expenditure, and has obtained the necessary powers for the compulsory acquisition of such interests as cannot be acquired by agreement. The total cost is estimated at £150,000, of which the Westminster City Council has agreed to contribute a sixth.

The Committee also stated that the Tivoli Music Hall Co., which is the principal party affected by the scheme, has pressed for a definite resolution to ensure that, subject to the Council obtaining any necessary Parliamentary powers, the proposed arrangements will be carried into effect with the utmost expedition. The company have also intimated that unless the Council so resolves, they may be compelled to proceed with the scheme of alterations previously proposed. The Committee were advised that the Council can legally resolve to proceed with the improvement subject to its obtaining the necessary compulsory powers in respect of those interests which cannot be acquired by agreement.

The consideration of the report was deferred until the next meeting.

Mr. Stuart Cleveland, proprietor of the successful sketch "A Policeman and a Man," has quite recovered from his recent illness, and, to use his own words, is fit and well, ready and eager to resume his original part of Police-Sergeant Stirling.

The success of the Bridlington Municipal Band is largely due to the skill in programme building shown by the talented conductor, Signor Scoma. We note with particular pleasure that worthy gentleman's appreciation of Feldman's publications as shown by his inclusion in the programmes of the Arthur-street firm's big 1912-13 successes. "Pleasureland," that excellent arrangement of popular "hits," is the chief draw on programmes which are models of artistic taste.

The rag-time song competition at Collins's this week has proved a very successful venture on the part of the proprietors. By Wednesday evening the total number of competitors had reached nearly 100. The competition is open to all-comers over the age of 14. Prizes are offered to the value of £20, the first being £10, the second £5, and then two £2 10s. prizes. In addition there are several consolation awards. Each competitor is allowed to sing one verse and chorus from any recognised rag-time song of their choice. At each house a number of competitors appear, and the audience constitute the judges. According to the measure of applause given selections are made. The final selection took place last night. The winners will appear at both houses this evening, and at the second the prizes will be distributed. Generally speaking, the performances have been very creditable, and competitors showing real ability have been encouraged by hearty applause. Evidence that the novel competition has caught on is found in the fact that at every performance the house has been crowded.

"THE MANAGER'S DREAM" AT CHELSEA.

Book and Lyrics by Edgar Wallace. Music by Arnold Blake. Produced at the Chelsea Palace on Monday, April 14.

Ivy Prunella .....Miss Ivy Sawyer
Daniel Bromley .....Mr. Dan Leno
George Bromley .....Mr. James O. Harcourt
Perks .....Mr. George Nash
Violet .....Miss Netta Foster
Phyllis .....Miss Connie Amor

The idea of a short, bright, and up-to-date revue—"revuette," as Messrs. Stedman, the well-known entrepreneurs, name it—is a happy one, and on its production on Monday evening at the Chelsea Palace it had a capital send-off. With a smart book and lyrics by Mr. Edgar Wallace, tuneful music, and haunting songs by Arnold Blake, a capital cast of actors, with clever Ivy Sawyer, so long known as the sweet heroine of "Alice in Wonderland," young Dan Leno, and a rattling English "beauty" chorus, the popularity of the revue is assured.

The first of the two scenes into which the production is divided opens in the study of Dan Bromley, whose father is a music-hall manager. The manager, after a hard day's work at his theatre, returns to find Dan, who is a studious youth, among his books, and Ivy hard at work with her needle. The father persuades Dan to give up his studies and join him at his theatre; but Dan, being a "stage hater," refuses. A commotion is heard outside, and in trips a bevy of pretty chorus girls, who demand a salary of £2 a week. Mr. Bromley temporises with his fair employees, and, fatigued with his day's work, seats himself in an armchair and falls asleep, whereupon the "beauty chorus" waltzes him to Dreamland.

The Manager's Dream is revealed in Scene II., which represents a portion of his new revue. Dan and Ivy are seen paying their half-crowns at the pit pay box, and take occasion to sing a clever little song, with chorus of pittites, "Take your place in the long, long queue." Subsequently, Dan and Ivy are seen in the revue, singing ragtime, dancing Russian dances, and "doing" cowboy drama, Dan as the Young Sheriff and Ivy as the Californian Rose. Perks, the butler, figures as the Terrible Turk in an effective song. Dan then appears as a theatrical agent to interview Ivy, who wishes to go on the stage, and after giving a full account of her talents the young lady is booked up to 1929. The manager, attired as a Scottish comedian, now bursts into song, and with full chorus sings "It's a bit of purple heather." The curtain falls on a rattling chorus, entitled "Biff, that electrifying biff!"

Among the numbers that proved most popular was that sung by Ivy Sawyer and Dan Leno at the pit entrance while waiting for admittance; while the topical references in the conversation among "pittites" were greatly appreciated. Another tuneful song was "That rag-time telephone." Miss Ivy Sawyer was dainty, and tripped about in delightful style as the little Quaker girl, Ivy Prunella. Mr. Dan Leno as Dan Bromley gained a brilliant success as the manager's son. His comic business, novel and humorous throughout, soon installed him a favourite with those in front. Mr. George Nash as Perks, the butler, was mirthful, and contributed to the success achieved; and the rôle of the Manager was capably filled by Mr. James Harcourt.

Some very pretty and novel scenery aid materially the success of "The Manager's Dream." The topical references in many instances brought down the house, notably the theatrical manager's reply to the beauty chorus, when demanding a minimum of £2 a week. He says he can only employ English composers now, as the export duty for Vienna music is very heavy. The producer, Mr. Marshall Moore, is to be commended for his work, and Messrs. Stedman are to be congratulated on a genuine triumph on the halls. It is interesting to add that Monday was the tenth anniversary of the opening of this beautiful Palace, and also marked the eighth year of Mr. J. Norman Berlin's management.

In addition to the new revue, the programme contained three sketches, Martin Adeson doing exceedingly well, with clever Clara Bernard as his assistant, in "Dr. Maud's First Patient"; then we had the Westbrooks, always fresh and novel, in "The Burglar and the Dancer"; and Arthur Rigby, whose whimsicalities bring down the house in "Clara! cleaner." Tom Woottwell retains his hold on Chelsea audiences, as was proved by his capital reception. He is undoubtedly a clever comedian, with originality and smart patter that compel the laughter and attention of even a blasé audience. Other interesting turns are Chas. T. Aldrich, a clever illusionist; the "biz" of the comedian, Bert Weston; and the Sisters Cora are very good. Miss Sylvia Scott is possessed of a sweet contralto voice, which was heard to advantage. Again the agile dancing of the Four Elles proved very popular.

HAIL TO THE CHIEF.

TENOR AND TARTAN.

The popular singer of "Roamin' in the Gloamin'" is not to be the only representative of Scotland to captivate American music hall audiences with ballads of the "hame" and the heather. Mr. Harry Lauder has a rival in these matters, none other than Lieutenant Kenneth Dougan Lorne, chief of his clan in the Isle of Mull, who sailed for America last Saturday to fulfil a 'vaudeville" engagement in New York.

The Maclaine of Lochbuie, as his rank entitles him to be called, will be known on the professional boards as Douglas Lorne, and for the purpose of paying off heavy mortgages on his estates he intends to earn money on the variety stage. Possessing a light tenor voice of uncommon quality, he is going to sing the songs of his fatherland in a perfectly "straight" way. He will wear Highland dress, but so far as his performance goes, he will attempt nothing more than an accurate interpretation of the favourite songs of Scotland. If he is a success in America, he will try to obtain engagements at the London variety theatres.

Mr. H. V. Judge would like to thank Mr. Charles King and Mr. Leo Lilly for organising a most original competition at the Burton Theatre in connection with their episode, "The Risk." A prize was offered for the most original and ingenious suggestion for a new method of escape for the cracksman (from his apparently hopeless situation) other than that by which he succeeds in the episode itself. The competition inspired much ingenuity and not a little humour, and was relished by all.

In aid of the Penzance Nursing Association an excellent musical evening was given at the Penzance Pavilion on Wednesday, the 9th inst., by the Harting Pierrots, under the direction of Miss Katherine Hodges, when a large audience were by no means slow in showing their appreciation of some well-rendered items. Miss Katherine Hodges' dancing was a delightful feature of the concert, while Miss Beatrice Hodges' songs were loudly applauded. Miss Elsie Potter is an artiste of ability, and her piano solo and songs were much enjoyed; Mr. Hew Pawles' rendering of "The mysterious rag" came in for a large share of applause, and an encore was demanded. The violin solos of Mr. B. B. Bennetts were excellent, and Mr. Frank Dobson also contributed to the programme, which was a long and most acceptable one.

MINSTRELS AT THE PRINCES.

OPERATIC ARTISTES BLACK UP.

Patrons of the Princes have turned from "Romeo and Juliet" to black-face minstrelsy without a twinge, and the large audience usual at Messrs. Melville's handsome theatre gave a hearty welcome on Monday to Mr. Eustace Gray's Palladium Minstrels, presented by permission of Mr. Charles Gulliver. The semi-circle is not so extensive as at the Palladium, and the volume of sound is not so great, but one imagines that the balance of harmony is better preserved in the choruses, though the boys' voices are a little overpowered.

Mr. Johnny Danvers retains his seat at the corner and contributes liberally to the humour of the evening. His song of "Ebenezer Webb" comes early in the first part, and with its quaint dance proves one of the comedian's drollest selections. Mr. C. Jerome also does yeoman service in the comic department, singing "The Thunder Man" with quite exhilarating effect. Mr. Alf. Wood figures well among the comedians with "The rag-time goblin man," and Mr. J. Tray takes a share in the fun-making. The sonorous voice of Mr. Arthur Lawrence, who is a capable interlocutor, is heard effectively in "Asleep in the deep," in which he touches some remarkably low notes. Master Porter, who possesses a sweet soprano voice, sings "Bye-bye Land" with expression, and Mr. Alf. Pierce takes the lead admirably in "Hello! Mr. Cupid." The banjo band, in a spirited march, and the Minstrel Octet with "Comrades in arms" are also well appreciated items of the first part.

Added attractions are to be provided from time to time by the engagement of several operatic vocalists, who will appear in turn. Mr. John Bardsley, the popular tenor, was the first to officiate, and on Monday was hardly to be recognised beneath his burnt cork. He sang "In the garden of my heart" so well as to be heartily recalled, and gave "My dream" with artistic skill and expression.

An agreeably varied entertainment is provided in the second part, of which Mr. Alf. Wood's banjo oddities and Mr. C. Jerome's serenading of "Letty," with an accompanying dance, are features. Mr. Johnny Danvers is again to the fore, singing "If the missus says it's black," and holding a humorous conversation with Mr. Lawrence, who occupies the conductor's seat for the occasion. Mr. C. Jerome brings his comic resource to bear in "The world's worst trio," in which the melodious voices of Mr. Lawrence and Mr. F. Rayne are utilised. Mr. Eustace Gray's sketch, "Dr. Whackem's Academy," proves as diverting as ever, and "The Home-Coming of Massa Jack," introducing its melodious plantation melodies, and the ubiquitous Johnny Danvers in his "Tapioca" song and dance bring along Part III., with its "surprise" and then "Good-bye."

"THE SHOPLIFTER,"

SKETCH WITH MUSICAL NUMBERS.

The above pleasing item, produced at the Camberwell Empire, on Monday, by Miss Nannie Fineberg and company, is not a sketch of the usual kind; for although containing a slight plot, it does not rely solely on this for its attractiveness. The chief feature is the musical numbers which are introduced, and here we find Miss Nannie Fineberg, a clever little lady, right to the fore in her renderings of many tuneful songs. She is an accomplished pianist and can be distinctly amusing. In fact, much praise is due to her. The story is simple. A youngster has been caught by a policeman in the act of placing in her own pocket a purse she has just picked up. She is captured and taken to the house of the lady to whom the purse belongs. It afterwards transpires that this lady is the child's grandmother, who freely forgives when the truth is known, and so all ends well. The piece met with a cordial reception here on Monday.

CONTRACTS AND FORFEITS.

Mr. Max Dearly, who sang chansons comiques at the Empire a year or two since, has been a member of the troupe at the Théâtre des Variétés, and has left that theatre to play in his own adaptation of "The Arcadians," which is running with immense success (there are twenty-five English girls, including Miss Julia James, in the cast) at the Olympia. The management of the Variétés are claiming £2,400 forfeit, and a further £2,000 damages, from Mr. Max Dearly, and the case will very shortly come before the Paris law courts.

Mr. Max Dearly is credited with the intention of bringing up the question of the legality of the forfeit system which prevails in theatrical contracts in Paris. It is certainly very much abused. In many cases actors and actresses earning quite moderate salaries cannot leave the theatre at which they work for a better engagement elsewhere, because doing so would entail payment of a lump sum of money out of all proportion to their earnings or to their balance at the bank. The other day an actress earning £10 a week had to refuse an offer of £15 a week because her three years' contract, which had still two years to run, provided for the payment, if she broke it, of £8,000.

MATINEE AT LEICESTER PALACE.

The Leicester Palace Theatre presented an animated and brilliant appearance on Thursday, 10th, when a matinée was given on behalf of the Leicester County Cricket Club. Mr. George Robey, who was appearing at the Palladium and Victoria Palace, came specially down to help the cause. Another prime favourite was George Formby. Other artistes included Green and Wood, Dale and O'Malley, Albert Rees, Harold Heath, the Four Sydney Girls, Harry Parkes and Louie Price, in a musical speciality, Reginald G. Alkin, 'cellist, Eva Groocock, Arthur Hackett, and J. Goddard. Mr. Walter Groocock was the accompanist.

During a short interval, the committee, with the Mayor (Councillor McCall), assembled on the stage.

His Worship moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Oswald Stoll for his great kindness in lending the Palace for the occasion, to Mr. Frank Macnaghten for his permission to allow the Pavilion artistes to appear, to the artistes who had entertained, the staff, and the orchestra (under Mr. John W. Lowe), and to Mr. George F. Reynolds, the acting-manager, all of whom had given their services gratuitously.

Mr. Geo. F. Reynolds, who replied, said that at all times Mr. Stoll, himself, and the Palace staff would continue to do their utmost in any deserving cause.

NEW YORK DANCER'S DEATH.

NATURAL CAUSES.

The Southampton coroner on Monday resumed his inquiry into the death of the American dancer, Frances Smith, which took place on board the White Star liner Oceanic. Mr. Arthur Deagon, a comedian, stated that Miss Smith, whom he had known for five years, was subject to fits. The Southampton borough analyst said he had found no traces of poison. A telegram was read from the New York police stating that the mother of the girl did not suspect foul play, and a verdict of "Death from suffocation during an epileptic fit" was returned.

"EVERYWIFE."

Symbolic Play, in Four Scenes, by George V. Hobart, Produced for the First Time in England at the Coliseum, on Monday, April 14.

Nobody .....Mr. Mitchell Lewis
Everywife .....Miss Helen Luttrell
Everyhusband .....Mr. Vivian Gilbert
Happiness .....Miss Edna Rich
Rhyme .....Miss Florenz Kolb
Reason .....Mr. Halliwell Hobbes
Jealousy .....Miss Leonora Le Fevre
Care .....Mr. Roy Price
Gamble .....Mr. Glenwood White
Sporty .....Mr. Richard Baker
Money .....Mr. Harry Bentham
Highflier .....Mr. Stanley Young
Drink .....Mr. Frederick Moyes
Expectation .....Mr. Charles Hersee
Trifler .....Mr. Vivian Ross
Dress .....Miss Winifred Ray
Beauty .....Miss Renee Raymond
Affinity .....Miss Brenda Guida
Gaiety .....Miss Milicent Vernon
Flirt .....Miss Florrie de Mar
Elegance .....Miss Connie Carr
Vanity .....Miss Ethel Wayne
Squabina .....Miss Adelaide Harland

The morality or symbolic play has been with us on both theatrical and variety stage for some time now, and therefore the novelty of such a piece as "Everywife"—finely produced at the Coliseum by Mr. Joseph Hart—has been somewhat discounted. The play, we understand, has had a long run in the States, and was probably written after the success of "Everywoman" in New York. There need be no comparison, however, as the lamented Mr. Walter Browne's morality drama is on a much broader canvas. "Everywife," like "Everywoman," has a chorus, and one is surprised that the actor who plays the part—it is called Nobody—should "black up" and adopt the speech of the civilised "cullud gemmen" of the States. We see more of Everyhusband than Everywife. In the first scene Happiness waits on them, and Rhyme and Reason make a call. Nothing ripples the tranquil surface of domestic peace until the arrival of Jealousy—which, according to Lord Tennyson, "hath an alchemic force to fuse into one metal love and hate." The "baggage," by demanding a kiss from the husband, and getting it in the presence of Everywife—who gazes at this temporary exhibition of unfaith with a jaundiced eye—banishes Happiness. There is apparently nothing else for the estranged Everyhusband but to hang round the stage-door, where he encounters Dress, Beauty, Affinity, Gaiety, Flirt, Elegance, and Vanity. These syrens have less philosophic and more reckless admirers than he, and, finding himself very much left, he seeks greater excitement in the lurid attractions of a night club. His experiences apparently are unenviable and disconcerting, for in the fourth and last scene he returns home to Everywife, to find that he has been made a father during his absence. With the advent of the baby, Happiness has returned to the hearth, and once more Rhyme and Reason are honoured guests. The play is beautifully dressed. The honours of the acting go chiefly to Mr. Halliwell Hobbs, a dignified figure as Reason, and to Mr. Mitchell Lewis as Nobody. We are hoping that Miss Adelaide Harland's American chorus girl is not true to life.

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CRYSTAL PALACE SCHEME.

Croydon Town Council decided at Monday night's meeting to contribute £20,000 to the Lord Mayor's Fund for the acquisition of the Crystal Palace for public purposes, the council's idea being that a loan could be obtained to extend over sixty years. This contribution, it was made clear, must cover the council's whole financial responsibility. If other suburban councils follow the example of Croydon, the acquisition of the Sydenham glasshouse and its splendid grounds for the people is a sure thing. Next please!

A CHILD PROTECTION BILL.

A White Slave Supplement Bill to protect children up to sixteen passed its second reading in the House of Lords on Tuesday. It is a Bill to prohibit and restrict children and young persons being taken to the Continent or to America or elsewhere with a view to singing, playing, performing or being exhibited for profit. Its provisions are as follow:—No "child" (under fourteen) to be sent abroad for entertainment purposes.

No "young person" (between fourteen and sixteen) to be sent without a specified licence.

Police to be empowered to take the child or young person to a place of safety if a breach of this Act is expected or suspected.

No licence to be given unless the magistrate is satisfied about the parents' or guardians' consent, and that there is a real, particular engagement.

Two years' hard labour in cases where it is proved that a child or young person has been induced to go abroad under false pretences.

The Bishop of London earnestly supported the Bill, and the second reading was agreed to without a division.

"THE GOOD OLD DAYS."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—In your paragraphs referring to the death of the late Mr. Slade Murray you quote, somewhat superciliously, a verse of his "Far, far away," ditty, "in order," as you put it, "to show what sort of stuff secured popularity in the good old days of the chairman." But why not have quoted, by way of counterblast, the words of our present-day rag-time successes, as brilliant proof of the immense superiority of the lyrical output in these more enlightened days? Even then, I am afraid, a few irreconcilables, like myself, with happy recollections of "the good old days of the chairman," might discover more rhyme and reason in poor Slade Murray's "stuff" than is discernible in any of the "piffle" perpetrated in the interests of rag-time.—Yours faithfully,

A. R. MARSHALL.

107, Holsworthy-square, W.C., April 12.

[Mr. Marshall misses our point. The "stuff" we referred to, and quoted, was really a parody of a well-known hymn, a composition that would certainly be resented by audiences of the present day.—Editor, "The Era."]

CHARITIES' AMALGAMATION.

INTERVIEW WITH MR. DOUGLAS STUART.

The suggestion for amalgamating the various music hall charities under one central organisation has been warmly taken up by many prominent members of the profession, but until lately it has been little more than a suggestion. Now, however, as announced by Mr. Voyce in his speech at the Terriers' dinner last week, a meeting is to be held on Friday, April 25, when the question of amalgamating the Home with the Variety Artistes Benevolent Institution will be discussed with a view to realising one phase of the suggestion.

It was with the view of getting the opinion of so capable an organiser as Mr. Douglas Stuart that a representative of "The Era" called upon that gentleman and discussed the matter with him.

"From an economical point of view," it was asked, "don't you think the amalgamation of the music hall homes would be an advantage?"

"It is a little difficult to say off-hand," said Mr. Stuart, "because the old Home and the new Institution are worked on such different lines. On the question of economy, we have in our mind the building of a wing which would accommodate another twenty inmates, and which would materially lessen the cost per head. Practically there would be the same amount of gas, taxes, and staff for forty as for twenty. If this wing was built we should, after taking over the present inmates of the Music Hall Home, have accommodation for another ten or eleven inmates. Of course, we are constantly receiving applications which, unfortunately, we cannot deal with. Why we have not approached the Home Fund to amalgamate earlier is because we had no accommodation to take in the nine or ten inmates they are at present housing.

"One of the conditions that the Institution Committee are quite willing to grant is that all large donors to the present Home should be offered a position on the list of patrons equivalent to the amount they have subscribed to the Home, as if the said amount given by them had been subscribed to the Institution. Their names would rank among the donors in the order as prescribed in the rules of the Institution."

"Wouldn't amalgamation mean that the combined Home would be financially stronger?"

"Yes, it would," replied Mr. Stuart. "Offers of considerable sums have been promised once the charities are amalgamated, from certain wealthy patrons of the variety stage, as well as those more directly connected with the profession. One big ball, one matinée, and one big dinner in aid of the various charities, it is hoped, may be given each year in the future. See what that would save! It would obviate so much clashing of the different functions, and also save the same people being asked again and again for support. Once a person was worried for a subscription, he would not be worried again for a year. There would also be some saving in administration by reason of the two societies having joined together, and all matters being directed from the one headquarters.

"A great many of the profession, managers, agents and artistes, are now being continually asked to subscribe to this charity and that charity, whereas when an amalgamation is effected between all the charities, one subscription would cover all calls on the pocket of the charitable. Complaints have been made of the repeated applications from those who subscribe to the charities."

"Do you think that amalgamation of all the charities could be brought about without great disturbance in their present arrangements?"

"It would have to be a matter of consideration, of course, to see how far existing arrangements could be preserved. But I would point out that Rule 5 of our Fund and Institution precludes all but bona fide performers being members of the Executive Committee."

"It is to be hoped that some definite plan may result from the meeting next week."

"I hope so; all those interested in the question should attend it. Primarily, the meeting is called for subscribers of the Home, and though there seems to be some controversy over the matter, it is probable that a subscriber who would be allowed to attend the meeting and vote would be anyone who has donated or subscribed. The success of the Benevolent Fund and Institution, which is now combined, is mainly owing to the fact that the committee are every one bona fide music hall artistes, who naturally understand the wants of their brother and sister artistes who have fallen into misfortune and poverty, and it will be the aim of the committee to continue this policy, which has been such an undoubted success during the past five years."

While heartily endorsing Mr. Stuart's remarks as to the gratifying success which has attended the efforts of the committee of the Benevolent Fund, we are sure Mr. Stuart will be the first to recognise the very great assistance which has been rendered by the professional Press, not only to the Benevolent Fund, but to the other charities which it is now sought to amalgamate.

VIEWS OF THE LADIES' GUILD.

The attitude of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild towards amalgamation has not, to the best of our memory, been defined up to the present. The Guild was approached by the Variety Artistes' Benevolent Fund some years ago, when Mrs. Ginnett was president, with a view to amalgamation. The ladies of the Guild were canvassed on the subject, and certain conditions were submitted, which, however, the Benevolent Fund did not see their way to accept, and the project fell through.

When our representative called at Great Newport-street on Wednesday afternoon, the chief workers of the executive had finished their deliberations, and were conducting their weekly "At Home." The views of the ladies we reproduce are simply individual expressions of opinion, and are not by any means to be taken as authoritative. If the proposal were to be renewed it would have, of course, to come before a general meeting of the Guild.

The president, Miss Irene Rose, could not see where the Guild would benefit by amalgamation. "Competition is good for everyone," she said. "If the amalgamation were brought about the ladies would not work so hard as before, because it would not depend entirely upon our exertions, and we should not be responsible for failure or success. Miss Albert and I have been working for the Guild from the beginning. We stuck to it in the days when adversity threatened, and we are not inclined to give it up now that it is prosperous. If it were proved to my satisfaction that amalgamation would be for the good of the charity I would say 'Yes'; but while always willing to work hand-in-hand with the Benevolent Fund, I think we should be more successful if we remained separate."

Miss Lottie Albert was of a similar opinion. "The committee ladies," she said, "pay a guinea a year, but they could not be induced to pay that sum if the members of the executive of other societies, when amalgamated, did not. We are always anxious to assist the Variety Artistes' Benevolent Fund by any means in our power, and to support all their functions. As a matter of fact, I sold as many tickets for the Benevolent Fund ball as I did for our own. Ladies, moreover, work so much harder than men. With regard to the constant 'touching' that goes on in the profession, do you think anyone would give us a guinea without being asked? No; when I succeed in getting a lady to join the committee I have to remind her again and again of her promise, but I always secure her eventually. As for running the Guild cheaper, no one could carry it on more economically than we do. Man, mind thyself," she added warningly, "women are sure to!"

Mrs. Coborn, vice-president, would not say "For" or "Against" until she learnt more about the proposition. She thought that what the Theatrical Ladies' Guild was to the theatrical charities such should be the Music Hall Ladies' Guild to the variety organisations.

Miss Julia Reeve was of opinion that the Guild was getting along very well as it was. "We are interested in our own charity," she said, "and work for it to the utmost of our power. Look, for instance, what splendid results we get from our dances and matinées! We have made such progress that we have been able to start a reserve fund, and it would be very hard if after having laboured so industriously we should be called upon to merge our work into that of another body."

Mrs. Alva was against amalgamation; Miss Violet Folland preferred to reserve her decision until such time as a definite proposal should be made; and Miss Minnie Letta, the remaining committee lady present, endorsed all that Miss Rose and Miss Albert had said.

ROWLEY'S REMINISCENCES.

Last week in Glasgow Mr. J. W. Rowley gave to our correspondent many interesting reminiscences of his early visits to the town, when J. S. Baylis was the proprietor of the Scotia in Stockwell-street. This canny Scotchman used to insist on all the members of his company appearing on the stage together and joining in an opening glee, such as "Hail, smiling morn," and as the said company might include acrobats, boxers, dog trainers, etc., the result was often more amusing than harmonious.

The salaries in those days were not extravagant, and, with a quizzical smile, J. W. told that he did not require a receipt-stamp when signing for his on treasury day. Many performers of the past were referred to by Mr. Rowley, who quoted the interesting fact that his first visit to the Scotia lasted five weeks, after which he left for the Midlands to fulfil a two weeks' contract, returning to the Scotia, where he remained another seventeen weeks. His favourite songs, "Going to the Derby" and "A starry night," he has sung so often as to have lost count, but the latter some years ago had reached the huge total of 32,000 times!

MUSIC HALL SICK FUND.

By kind permission of the directors, the usual monthly meeting was held at the Metropolitan Music Hall on Wednesday last. There was a good attendance of members, as it was also a quarterly meeting. The very satisfactory report of the secretary (Mr. E. J. Tranchant) was read and approved, and the accounts were duly passed. Mr. William Bailey (the chairman) said he was very pleased to announce that a further dividend, amounting to £49 2s. 10d., had been received from the Birkbeck Bank, this making a total of sixteen shillings in the pound to date. He was very glad to say that the society was not amongst the number of those who brought pressure to bear upon the bank. The very substantial amount already paid went to prove that, given fair play, the Birkbeck, in his opinion, would still be a sound concern.

DEATH OF CARL HAGENBECK.

A Reuter's telegram from Hamburg announces that Herr Carl Hagenbeck, owner of the famous Zoological Park at Stellingen, passed away on Monday evening. Herr Carl Hagenbeck has been spoken of as the "King of the Zoos."

Carl Hagenbeck was born at Hamburg in 1844. In 1848 his father laid the foundation of the collection which has made his family famous by the purchase of some seals and a polar bear, brought to the port by a whaler. To these he added other wild animals, and when his son Carl was twenty-one he was given the whole collection. Entering into the business with enthusiasm, Carl largely extended his possessions, and in 1873 he had to erect extensive buildings in Hamburg to house his animals. In 1875 he began to exhibit representative zoological specimens of various lands, accompanied by troupes of natives of the respective countries. These he showed throughout most of the large cities of Europe. A large proportion of the animals exhibited in various places of entertainment all over the world hail from Hagenbeck's collection at Stellingen.

In accordance with his last wish the body of the well-known animal collector was on Tuesday conveyed through his famous Tierpark at Stellingen, near Hamburg. Earlier in the day a private funeral service was held in the Villa Hagenbeck, the family residence in the grounds. It was attended by the widow, Herr Hagenbeck's two sons and three daughters, and other relatives, as well as by the keepers and trainers of the Zoo. Then the coffin was carried through the park, the route followed being that which the late Herr Hagenbeck was in the habit of taking. Slight pauses were made at the lion dens, and also at the quarters for Arctic animals, the whole park being traversed. The interment took place on Thursday at the Ohlsdorf Cemetery. The German Emperor sent a wreath, and floral tributes were received from dignitaries in all parts of Europe, and also from the various German learned societies.

H. Kendal Barton and Elsie Marriott Watson will shortly produce a new episode, entitled "Engaging a Cook."

By kind permission of the directors of the Rotherham Hippodrome a matinée was held there on the 10th in aid of the Rotherham (Filey) Convalescent Home and the event was a distinct success. Several artistes appearing at the Hippodrome during last week gave their services along with a number of local ladies and gentlemen. During the afternoon the Deputy Mayor (Alderman Dan Mullins, J.P.) proposed a vote of thanks to the management and artistes for their generous assistance, and the vote was seconded by Alderman D. L. Winter, J.P. For the success of the performance and for the admirable arrangements made considerable credit undoubtedly reflects upon the courteous resident-manager, Mr. William Pearson.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

KINGSTON EMPIRE.

An excellent bill at the Kingston Empire this week is headed by Mr. George Robey, who made his initial appearance in the riverside town, and met with a very cordial reception. Mr. Robey's songs included "And very nice, too," and that in which he describes the experiences of a theatrical landlady. The patter in the latter song convulsed the audience, which filled the house in every part, by its absurdity, and the artiste at the close was applauded for several minutes. Another good turn is that provided by Mr. Harry Lowther, in his amusing sketch, entitled "Left Luggage." As a railway porter left in charge of the cloak-room of a railway station Mr. Lowther is excruciatingly funny. Miss Hulo Hodgson, who substitutes a baby for a goose in a hamper, gives a very fine exhibition of burlesque tragedy, and Miss Vera Leslie appears with success as the village belle, Gertrude.

A most favourable reception is given to that clever and artistic cartoonist, Rossi Ashton, a dashing war correspondent, who, with lightning rapidity, sketches in most amusing fashion a number of figures, rapidly executed, illustrating a series of song titles. During his performance a lady takes the conductor's seat in the orchestra. A distinctly artistic turn is given by the Carona Gatty Trio, consisting of a gentleman and two ladies, who display remarkable skill with the banjo, zylophone, and silver tubes, their final selection, Mascagni's "Intermezzo," being beautifully rendered. A notable feature of their performances is the artistic stage set employed and the changing lights, the latter being an illustration of the excellence of the electrical equipment of the stage.

Miss Lylie Banner, vocalist and dancer, appears in several songs, including "In all my dreams I dream of you" and "At the seaside," and Louis J. Seymour sings with success "The Bond-street crawl" and "I am off to the seaside." The Durham Sisters, two young artistes of much promise, sing several songs, with piano accompaniments, and dance singly and together with grace. The performances of Tony Nelson, assisted by Miss Tilley, are a feature of the bill. Mr. Nelson performs some remarkable equilibristic feats. Perched on the top of a slender framework, first on his head, then on his back, and on one hand supporting his body, he successively fires a rifle and hits a ball each time at the other side of the stage.

FINSBURY PARK EMPIRE.

Little Tich occupies the premier position in this week's programme at the Finsbury Park Empire, and it is almost superfluous to add, exercises his customary skill in extracting a bounty of laughter from his initial entrance till his final call. On Monday evening he selected "The steeplejack" for his first number—an exceedingly wise choice, for in the opinion of the writer this is the happiest of all this great little comedian's efforts, and gives him full scope for his most whimsical drolleries. In "The waiter," his second contribution, he is again extremely funny; and in the final item, "Curiosity" (now well matured), his eccentric dancing reaches what one might almost term the poetry of humour.

That delightful concert party styling themselves 'The Harlequinades," whose first success at this hall was recorded in full in our columns, are repeating their individual triumphs with, if possible, greater credit, and may be extolled for presenting a most interesting, harmonious, and amusing act. They now introduce the ubiquitous rag-time by means of a "ghostly" rag entitled "Pharaoh's Phantom Band," an excellent number most effectively performed. A bright concerted number, "In Gypsyland," proves tuneful and catchy, and a smart topical item, "Merry, merry, me," serves to introduce many pointed witticisms. A strong feature is a charming song entitled "Queen of summer," which should prove immensely popular. As before, the turn concludes with a medley of ancient and modern ballads, skilfully interwoven and contrasted.

Miss Violet Essex was responsible for a distinctly pleasing item. Assisted by one of London's finest accompanists at the pianoforte—Mr. Victor Marmont—she rendered three delicate songs with utmost expression. Miss Essex possesses a melodious voice of unusual compass, an agreeable personality, and, further, has evidently been trained by the best masters in the art of deportment. This young lady should achieve much. Her songs were "Here's to love," by Paul Rubens (from "The Sunshine Girl"); Edward German's "Waltz song," from "Tom Jones"; and "The dancing lesson," by Herbert Oliver. The act received quite exceptional approbation

Other items included Sammy Shields, the football enthusiast, who is keener than ever upon the national sport, and who has the knack of compelling his auditors to share his excitement. He now introduces a burlesque, which may be called "Rag-time Football." Edwin Lawrence, another comedian of different methods, assisted by a clever, if youthful, performer, has replaced his scena "Scroggy, the Scout" by a "Cowboy" skit that is extremely amusing. Bowden and Stol elicit applause for their eccentric comedy and clever acrobatics. Lona Wayne is a character comedienne of merit; the Brothers Nicol give a capital cycling act; and the Bioscope concludes.

STRATFORD EMPIRE.

Mark Sheridan is topping a strong bill this week, and is in excellent form. A humorous ragtime parody is his first number, and afterwards he has the audience on the best of terms with "On the esplanade," which concludes with some racy patter which goes remarkably well. Another prominent turn is Johnson Clark, the sportsman ventriloquist, whose superior knowledge of the polyphonic art is only equalled by the smart humour and repartee exchanged with his automaton, a precocious-looking ploughboy. Carter Livesey and company, in the popular playlet, "An Amateur Anarchist," provide some merry moments, the duel of wits between the detective in bucolic disguise and the fair anarchist being exceedingly clever and diverting. Mr. Carter Livesey is ably supported by Miss Zerlina Harrington.

Egbert Bros. have a worthy successor to their famous "Happy Dustmen" act in "The Retired Dustmen," which may be described as a ripened sequel, for the humorous side has been worked up considerably; it is handsomely staged, and their knockabout and tumbling business is as clever as ever. Sable Fern and company, in "Boy Scouts in Camp," is a turn which has the true patriotic ring about it, the vocalism, incidents of Boy Scout life, and pictures of prominent heroes in childhood being very loudly applauded.

Maud Tiffany is giving of America's best in syncopated melody. Of captivating personality, "rag-time" gains much in her hands, and at the conclusion of such good numbers as "At the devil's ball," "Ragging baby to sleep," and "Everybody's doing it," there are very hearty calls for more, which the exigencies of time forbid. The Viennese Trio are grotesque instrumentalists, whose musical demonstration alternates from the sublime to the ridiculous, and their talented blend of music and mirth is one of the most enjoyable turns of the evening. Luis Alvarez's fine tenor voice is splendidly displayed in a couple of songs; and Damerell and Rutland are smartly groomed comedians, who secure a fine reception. Mr. Albert Whipp conducts with marked ability, and the comfort of the audience is well studied by Manager Macdermott.

VARIETY LAW.

SOLICITOR'S SLANDER SUIT.

An action for slander was brought in the Lord Mayor's Court on Wednesday, before the Common Serjeant (Sir F. Bosanquet, K.C.) and a jury, by Messrs. H. H. Wells and Sons, solicitors, of Paternoster-row, E.C., and at Finchley and Westcliff-on-Sea, against Mr. Harry Jacob Cashstein, otherwise known as Harry Jacobs, the proprietor of the Paragon Music Hall, Mile End.

Mr. Stuart Bevan and Mr. Ayre Lees (instructed personally) appeared for the plaintiffs, while the defendant was represented by Mr. M. Shearman, junr. (instructed by Messrs. Palmer and Robinson).

The plaintiffs acted as solicitors to the liquidator of the Canterbury and Paragon Music Halls. The latter hall had been purchased by the defendant, who did not pay the whole of the purchase price in cash. On January 27 last there was a balance owing on the purchase of the Paragon Music Hall of £270, and it was agreed that a sum of £180 should be paid by the defendant in full settlement. He paid £110 down, and the next day called and handed over the balance of £70. The defendant pocketed the receipt, and then, said counsel, he made some unfounded and wicked charges against the plaintiffs. The defendant said:—

"I am going to ruin Wells and Sons. You have swindled and ruined me. You wanted your pound of flesh, you dirty Shylocks, and now you have got it, and I am going to have mine."

The words were shouted, and were heard by clerks in the office and others.

Mr. Leonard S. M. Wells, senior partner in the plaintiff firm, gave evidence as to the statements made by the defendant. The witness said the defendant also stated: "I am the first to find out what rogues and swindlers you (Wells and Sons) are."

In cross-examination, witness said his father, Mr. H. H. Wells, who was not a partner in the firm, had been a director of the Canterbury and Paragon (Limited). He would not agree that the statements made by the defendant referred to Mr. H. H. Wells, and not to the partners of the firm. He had heard that after purchasing the music hall defendant had to pay £1,000 for the drains. The defendant had said he had lost over £3,000 in connection with the Paragon.

The defendant, who described himself as a sports promoter, said he met Mr. H. H. Wells, who he thought was a member of the firm of H. H. Wells and Sons. He purchased the five years' lease of the Paragon Music Hall for £6,750. After being in possession of the hall for three weeks he was obliged to carry out repairs at a cost of £1,600. His total loss on the Paragon Music Hall was about £4,000, which was every penny he possessed. The members of his family also lost heavily in the concern.

The defendant further stated that, rightly or wrongly, he thought he had a grievance against Mr. H. H. Wells in connection with his purchase of the Paragon Music Hall. Before speaking of the interview when the alleged slander took place, the defendant asked that all ladies should leave the Court, so that he could give an account of the occurrence. (Laughter.) He then declared that at the interview Mr. Wells saw he was in a rage and told him he could swear as much as he liked in the office. (Laughter.) He denied making the statements complained of by the plaintiffs, but admitted saying certain things about Mr. H. H. Wells.

In cross-examination, the defendant admitted that he had been fined for using "abusive language." He had also been fined for assaulting an electrician. On another occasion he was fined 8 guineas at the Guildhall, but declared it was for furious driving, and not for an assault. It was true that he had been convicted at the Guildhall Justice Room for assault. The jury found a verdict for the plaintiffs, and awarded them £50, and judgment was entered accordingly, with costs.

ACTION AGAINST MR. FRED GINNETT.

The action concerning the copyright of a picture owned by Messrs. Savory, Limited, fine art publishers, Bristol, was concluded before Mr. Justice Bailhache in the King's Bench Division on Wednesday.

The action was brought by the Bedminster Hippodrome (Bristol), Limited, against Mr. Fred Ginnett, the well-known music hall artiste, to recover the sum of £98 7s. in connection with costs and damages incurred in legal proceedings relating to the distribution of a poster alleged to be an infringement of the copyright of Messrs. Savory.

The picture, "Exchange no Robbery," painted by an artist named Wright, whose exclusive services were retained by Messrs. Savory, Limited, was said to have been reproduced on a poster of Mr. Ginnett's, which he published to illustrate his sketch, "Dick Turpin."

For the defence, Mr. Hill submitted that the clause in the contract relating to infringement only applied to the performance of Ginnett's sketch. If the Bedminster Hippodrome had infringed they had infringed by putting the posters, and the damages and costs that were incurred in the action brought by Messrs. Savory against the theatre company were not damages and costs incurred by any infringement on the part of Ginnett, but were incurred by a subsequent infringement by the theatre company. He submitted that the damages claimed did not come within the contract. Messrs. Savory, Limited, had not proved to the Court they had suffered any damage whatever.

Mr. Fred Ginnett, giving evidence, said he obtained the illustration referred to on the poster from a cigarette box some eight years ago. He had used it on his posters for a good many years. When he received the complaint he withdrew all the posters, and sent them, with the block, to Messrs. Savory, Limited, Bristol.

In giving judgment, Mr. Justice Bailhache said that when the legal proceedings were commenced for an injunction, and the inquiry as to costs and damages were suggested, notice was given to Mr. Ginnett that these proceedings were going on, but Ginnett gave no instructions on the matter. The Bedminster Hippodrome Company paid the sum of £15 in respect of the action, a sum which, in his Lordship's opinion, was not in excess of the actual damages which Messrs. Savory should have proved, but payment of this sum stopped the inquiry as to damages and costs, which must have involved more costs. He thought that the artist in this case did cause to be published by the Bedminster Hippodrome Company, and this was an infringement of the copyright, and he thought the plaintiffs had been involved in damages and costs by the infringement. He gave judgment against Mr. Ginnett with considerable regret, because he was satisfied that he was perfectly innocent of anything about the copyright. He accepted the evidence that Ginnett obtained the sketch from the cover of a cigarette box some years ago, and he was satisfied that he did everything he possibly could to repair the difficulty into which he had unwittingly fallen. Judgment would practically be for an indemnity; that was, for the damages and costs incurred by the Bedminster Hippodrome, in that he caused to be published a picture, the copyright of which was in the possession of Messrs. Savory.

GUIDES, PHILOSOPHERS AND FRIENDS.

In bygone days the process of selection of songs for seaside consumption was a protracted and laborious task with proprietors of alfresco troupes and concert parties. Now all that is changed. So many and so great are the successes of such go-ahead firms as the Star Music Co. that seaside entertainers who place themselves in the experienced hands of this publishing house's expert "placers" find themselves rewarded with a plethora of tried and proven good things. No mistake can possibly be made by light or low comedians with two such brilliant successes as "If they'd bury Alexander's Band" and "All the girls are lovely by the seaside," which Mr. Harry Fragson so joyously and successfully sings at the Wood Green Empire this week. Again, seaside soubrettes in search of the "real goods" cannot do better than pay a visit to the new Empire revue, "All the Winners," and hear Miss Ida Crispi most delightfully sing "Little Miss U.S.A." and the hit of the show, "Running Wild." Mr. Eric Blore's success, "Everybody's doing it at the seaside," in the same production, should also prove "grateful and comforting" to myriads of seaside entertainers of both sexes. Just round the corner, too, at the Tivoli, Mr. Wilkie Bard is convulsing all and sundry with his screamingly funny rag-time satire, "The wriggley rag"; while a stone's-throw away, at the Princes Theatre, where the Palladium Minstrels are in evidence, Mr. Charles Jerome is stupendously successful with "Hark! It is the thunder man," and Master Willie Barnes brings the house down with "Off we go to by-bye land," two of the finest and most effective numbers ever offered for high-class alfresco work. Add to these the fact that Mr. George Bastow's "Beauty of the Guards" is undoubtedly the finest "cod" military comedy number ever written, and it will be readily appreciated that the Star Co. are offering a very fine lot of new numbers for the amusement of holiday-seekers this year.

Amongst the host of new songs that the Star Co. are placing on the market the fact must not be lost sight of that many of the pantomime favourites will also be in very great seaside demand this season. A beautiful ballad like "My heart is with you to-night," for instance, will be everywhere; while all the troupes that failed to feature that exquisite concerted number, "Little shepherdess of Devon," last summer, will assuredly repair the omission this. Then, again, big pantomime hits like Whit Cunliffe's "Mister Cupid," Mark Sheridan's "They all walk the wibbly-wobbly walk," Miss Victoria Monks' "I'd like to go on a honeymoon," and Herbert Rule's "Woolloomooloo" must, by virtue of their popularity, figure on the majority of seaside programmes.

A very fine syncopated number which alfresco artistes to a man (and woman) vote the real thing for special concerted production is that fine number from the pens of Fred Godfrey and Harry Gifford, "Hey, ho, can't you hear the steamer?" which is such a success in Mr. Austen Hurgon's "What ho, rag-time," at Southampton; with the Palladium Minstrels at the Hippodrome, Bristol; with the American Rag-time Octette at the Hippodrome, Portsmouth, and other important shows.

Miss Carlotta Levey, writing the Star Co., informs them of the glorious success that has befallen their two fine songs, "Have you forgotten, Jennie, darling?" a delightful Scotch number, and the no less effective semi-military number, "My boy," at Collins' this week. The Star Co. are proud of having secured so fine an exponent for their two great songs.

To Miss Belle Sylvia belongs much of the credit for the immense popularity of the Star's premier ballad success, "My heart is with you to-night," as she was one of the original singers of this song-craze long before it had obtained its transcendent vogue in pantomime. Therefore, the production of a new ballad by this eminent artiste is an event of considerable moment. There is little room for doubt that the new Star ballad, "When love creeps in your heart," which this gifted vocalist is singing at the Hippodrome, Bury, this week, will worthily uphold the record already won by both singer and publishers; in fact, many already declare this to be "the" ballad for next season's pantomimes. We are on the knees of the gods; we will not presume to prophesy so early, but—Time proves most things.

Mr. Harry Reynolds, the famous basso of the Covent Garden Grand Opera Co., is one of the latest to succumb to the charms of the Star Co.'s new dainty number, "Little Miss Demure," which is already fixed for half a hundred prominent alfresco parties. This eminent vocalist declares this to be far and away the finest number of its type that he has encountered this year, and he has specially rehearsed business and personally harmonised the chorus for his fine party of high-class entertainers, who will open at the Pier Pavilion, Brighton, Whit Week, and specially feature "Little Miss Demure" at every performance, to be followed by a full season at Folkestone.

That fine, dashing performer, Miss Lily Iris, who will open at the Empire, Bristol, on Monday next, is equipped with two of the Star Music Co.'s finest syncopated numbers, to wit, "That ripping rag" and Tony Martin's great number, "San Francisco," and success is assured both for songs and singer, as they match one another in point of excellence.

Miss Florrie Gallimore, who is at the Palace, Glasgow, this week, is putting on the Star Music Co.'s fine song, "Sylvester," at once, and is confident that in this vocal tale of the wiles and fascinations of a seaside bandmaster she has one of the biggest potential winners of her highly successful career.

The baritone singer in Miss Marie Santoi's sketch company, which is at the Empire, Sheffield, this week, is making the biggest hit of this fine show with the Star's exquisite ballad, "I shall never cease to love you," which is greeted with a perfect torrent of applause at every performance. Miss Lily Eyton made a very great success with this number at the Bedford last week, and the vogue of this popular ballad, first sung on the variety stage by Miss Evie Greene, is very great indeed just now.

The habitués of the Empire, Preston, are to be congratulated on a rare vocal treat this week in the cultured singing of Miss Nellie Wigley, whose rendering of the Star Co.'s beautiful ballad, "My heart is with you to-night," is a sheer delight to all listeners. Miss Wigley is adding greatly to the pantomime laurels she won for her matchless delivery of this matchless song. There is a long lease of life yet for the Star's premier ballad, as the enthusiastic recalls that Miss Wigley wins in Preston and elsewhere give striking token.

A most captivating and delightful performer is Miss Bessie Butt, and her principal song, the Star's "Oh, have you seen the mermaids?" is worthy of her undoubtedly great abilities. She is making a very big success indeed with this catchy number at the Pavilion, Newcastle, this week.

Ever on the alert to acquire all that is best and brightest in Songland, the Star Music Co. are publishing Mr. Whit Cunliffe's latest great song-hit, "Good old holiday time," by R. P. Weston and Maurice Scott. Mr. Cunliffe is also still singing his greatest success, "Mister Cupid," which is going, if anything, better than ever, and is, of course, also published by the Star Co. This latter bids fair to become one of the most popular seaside light comedy songs of the year.

Miss Jen Latona marches from triumph to triumph with the Star Co.'s two great song successes, "Everybody's doing it at the seaside" and "Hark! It is the thunder man," and at the Empire, Newcastle, her reception for these two numbers baffles description. She certainly has one of the funniest songs she has ever sung in the first-named, and one of the prettiest in the latter.

In the new edition of Mr. Ernest Rolls' successful "Ragmania" several of the Star Co.'s fine songs will be introduced, notably Fred Godfrey and Harry Gifford's sterling success, "Little Miss U.S.A.," which will be specially costumed and featured, and the "business" for which will be unique to a degree, and reflect much credit on Mr. Rolls' extreme fertility of resource. The vogue of the Star Co.'s numbers in revues, sketches, etc., just now is little short of marvellous.

"THE CONFESSION."

A Sketch, Produced at the Putney Hippodrome, on Monday evening, April 14.

Connor Fitzgerald .....Mr. Aidan Lovett
Dennis Fitzgerald .....Mr. Gilbert Ritchie
Father Maguire .....Mr. Jas. Skea
Eileen O'Hanlon .....Miss Frances Ruttledge

This proved to be a dramatic little tale of Irish rural life. The action passes on a summer evening in a hayfield, described as near Ballymote. Two brothers, Connor and Dennis Fitzgerald, are at work making a haystack. It appears that they have both made a vow that no woman should ever come between them. At last, however, one has done so—Eileen O'Hanlon. Dennis accuses Connor of making love to her, and of knowing all the time that he (Dennis) is also deeply attached to her. The two men quarrel, and Connor, in his excitement, accidentally kills Dennis with his pitchfork. In the midst of Connor's distress, Eileen—who has been helping her father in a neighbouring field—comes along to borrow a pitchfork. She quickly sees that something is wrong with Connor, and questions him. At first he says that he has quarrelled with his brother, who has gone away, never to return. He then impetuously asks Eileen to be his wife, immediately repents, and the next moment admits that he has something on his mind. The girl urges him to confess to Father Maguire, stating that she will not marry him unless he does so, and goes to fetch the priest. When Father Maguire arrives, Connor tells him the truth. The priest pardons him, as he did not kill his brother intentionally, and promises not to give him up to the police. The field is left empty, and a gipsy enters and sets fire to the haystack. The flames quickly attract attention, and Eileen, hurriedly returning, is anxious to send for help, or, as she says, Connor will be ruined. The priest replies that it is the best thing that could have happened, for it will *prevent* Connor's ruin. What he means, of course, is obvious. The little play, which was written by Mr. Montague Turner, was finely acted by Miss Frances Ruttledge and her company, and should become very popular on the halls. There is plenty of room for plays that "grip," and this is one of them. An excellent scene has been provided by Messrs. J. T. Bull and Son, and the sketch was produced by Mr. Chas. W. Waine.

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BATTERSEA PALACE.

On Friday evening, April 11, the first performance of a new sketch was presented by Miss Eva St. Vincent's company, and entitled

"THE DOCTOR'S PRESCRIPTION,"
by James Malam.

Mr. Smith .....Mr. Eustace Day
Mrs. Smith .....Miss Eva St. Vincent
Dr. Gresham, jun. .....Mr. James Malam
Madam Vesey .....Mr. Dan Conway
Betsy, a maidservant ..Miss Hettie Graham

In this amusing little piece the part of Madam Vesey, as will be noticed in the above cast, is performed by an actor, the truth of the matter being that there is no Madam Vesey at all, but that Mr. Smith has persuaded his friend, Harold, to assume lady's garb and wig and hat for purposes of his own, and very comical indeed Harold looks in a sky-blue and grossly exaggerated edition of a divided skirt.

Mrs. Smith, it appears, is so jealous of her innocent old husband that he has determined to bring matters to a head by allowing her to discover a very up-to-date lady secreted in his bedroom, and this is the part which Madam Vesey has to fulfil. On the rising of the curtain, Betsy, the maidservant, speedily makes us acquainted with the situation of the strained relations between husband and wife and the arrival of Madam Vesey, and a brief interview between her and her friend, Mr. Smith, tells the rest.

As Mrs. Smith is at present out shopping, it is arranged that Madam Vesey shall leave her hat in the drawing-room and herself hide in the bedroom. This arrangement is comically carried out before Mrs. Smith returns. But now a surprise awaits us, for Mrs. Smith arrives home in a terrible condition, her hair tangled and wet, her dress burnt and torn, her arms bruised, a wild light in her eyes, and a harsh note of hysterical laughter in her voice. The draper's shop where she has been making purchases has just been burned to the ground, and after exciting and comic adventures, Mrs. Smith has been rescued in her present condition.

She now finds the hat, as has been planned, and then the lady in the bedroom as a climax to her woes. She promptly locks the lady in the bedroom, and then the fun grows fast and furious. The young doctor who has been sent after her from the fire to attend to her wounds, arrives; Betsy the maid has a strange dream in the kitchen, in which she sees her mistress burning, and she enters and deluges both doctor and patient with a syphon; the doctor makes the mistake of treating Mrs. Smith's wounds with boot polish in place of ointment; Mrs. Smith gets on a chair behind a screen and shoots at him with a revolver, whereupon the young doctor knocks over the screen, and to protect himself from further shots seizes her in his arms; Mr. Smith enters and finds his jealous wife in another man's arms; Madam Vesey is released, and, taking off her wig, discovers herself to be Harold, and with the tables thus turned upon his jealous and now thoroughly subdued wife, Mr. Smith takes her in his arms as the curtain falls.

A great deal of the amusement is provided in this sketch by the experienced acting of Miss Eva St. Vincent, who literally tears herself to pieces in her comic hysterical scenes, and, looking a most pitiable object, makes the most of every opportunity afforded her throughout, thoroughly deserving the applause which meets her efforts at curtain fall. As Mr. Smith, Mr. Eustace Day acts capitally. As the young doctor, Mr. James Malam, who is also the author of the piece, supports Miss Eva St. Vincent in a most agreeable and capable manner. As Madam Vesey, Mr. Dan Conway, in his divided skirt, is very amusing; and Betsy, the maid, is well played by Miss Hettie Graham. The scene of the piece, which is capably staged, is a drawing-room in London, and the time noon. The sketch was well received by a packed house.

Alec Payne, the original Anglo-Continental Agent, will shortly introduce to this country an American sharp-shooting sketch. As he was the impresario for Baughman and Aldine, this ought to be the goods.

Miss Lee White and Mr. George Perry have just arrived from the States, and open at the Palladium on Monday next. They have been known on the other side as "The Smiling Rag time Singers of Smiling Rag-time Songs," and are said to have eclipsed all other rag-timers. Next, please!

Starting from Monday, 28th inst., the rehearsals at the Lewisham Hippodrome will be at 12 instead of 1 o'clock. This arrangement has been made to meet the convenience of artistes who are working turns.

Frank Tinney, the black-faced comedian, gave full permission to Mr. Vernon Watson for the elaborate mimicry of him in the Empire Revue. Frank confesses that he is a greenhorn with a motor-car, and doesn't know how to mend it when it breaks down. This is his method of getting someone else on the job when the car breaks down:—"I just leave my wife sitting in the car, and I climb behind the nearest hedge. Pretty soon a gallant motorist comes along, sees a pretty girl in distress, and plunges up to the neck in oil and spanners to do something to the sparking plug. Then he raises his hat and drives away, and I climb out of the ditch."

It speaks well for the business now being done at the Empire, Middlesbrough, when the directors have found it necessary and imperative to increase the seating accommodation. For this purpose plans have been submitted to, and passed by, the local authorities for an additional three rows of seats to the circle.

The Daggerwoods are appearing at the Jersey Opera House this week in a comedy duologue entitled "He Knew it all the Time," with which sketch they have booked a long tour of the provincial halls. The little act runs for about fifteen minutes, and is as bright as anything we have seen on the vaudeville stage lately. On Monday night the Daggerwoods had a big reception, and at the fall of the curtain they had to come forward several times and bow their acknowledgments.

Mr. Lindsay Edwards has been appointed resident-manager of the Jersey Opera House, in the place of Mr. Stanley Hope, whose coming retirement we mentioned a few weeks ago. Mr. Lindsay Edwards is no stranger to Jersey, and has many friends in the island; and there is no doubt that he will be very popular with the patrons of the Opera House.

Datas, the Man of Memory, who created such a sensation by his quick answers to questions put to him some few years ago, has just returned to England from a successful tour in Australia, and will make his reappearance at the Canterbury on Monday next.

At Leigh (Lancs) Borough Police Court, on Tuesday, Thos. E. Rersley, thirty-five, a single man, who was for eight years in the Army and served in the South African War, pleaded guilty to stealing two pairs of brown boots, the property of Tom Grave, professionally known as Darracq, valued £1 5s. The prisoner was sent to gaol for fourteen days.

PAVLOVA AT THE PALACE.

CONTINENTAL TRIUMPHS.

The Spring sun has already commenced to smile benignly, coincident with the arrival in Town of Mademoiselle Pavlova, who, radiant with delight from the scenes of her recent Continental triumphs, chatted with characteristic charm to an "Era" representative one morning this week at the Palace Theatre.

It were as highly infelicitous and idle to discuss the artistic attributes attached to the Venus de Milo or the merits of Meissonier's miniatures as to seek to criticise the perfections of Pavlova—for it has long since been recognised that her incomparable artistry has placed her beyond the reach of the critical pen. The writer, therefore, will content himself by simply recounting that it was his privilege to enjoy the pleasurable experience of witnessing the first rehearsal in England of "Les Préludes de Liszt," founded on Lamartine's poem; and it will suffice, for the moment, to relate that this Dance Poem (which depicts the struggle between Life and Death, and the victory of Love over both) affords full scope for the revelation of Pavlova's fascinating art. The ballet is arranged by Fokine.

This charming ballet was first produced by Fokine in Berlin on Jan. 14 last; and the entire scenery and costumes employed in the German Capital are now being utilised for the purpose of the present production. This ballet, it may moreover be related, was specially arranged for Mlle. Pavlova, and is her own property. It was produced by her permission, for the first time in Russia, on Tuesday night, at the Imperial Theatre, St. Petersburg: and cablegrams have since been received announcing its immense success. This could be quite readily understood by the three occupants of the Palace stalls (the ever-alert and popular Palace manager, Mr. Alfred Butt, suave and genial Mr. Daniel Mayer, and "The Era" representative), who were witnessing its rehearsal in its new environment on Thursday morning: and when, at its conclusion, Mr. Butt remarked, "Without doubt this is going to prove an absolute and complete artistic success," his companions readily confirmed that expression of opinion.

In the course of conversation with the writer Mlle. Pavlova said: "After visiting Berlin with

MADAME PAVLOVA.

my own Company in the Autumn I went to St. Petersburg, and appeared at the Imperial Opera The Czar, accompanied by a numerous suite, came twice to see my dance. Upon each occasion he received me in his box, and paid me most flattering compliments. His Majesty was also gracious enough to specially invite me to dance for him in September next—before I go to America. I found everyone in Russia most charming I was invited to the English Embassy upon several occasions, and at the special wish of the Directorate of the Imperial Opera, I visited Moscow to present a programme exactly of the same character as that which I give in London, when I commence my 'season' at the Palace on Monday next."

"Which occasion, I can assure you, Mademoiselle, the countless admirers of your alluring art are awaiting most expectantly."

"How very charming. Bien, Monsieur, apres St. Petersburg, Paris. In the Parisian capital I appeared, at the beginning of the present month, at the new Champs Elysee Theatre. I crossed the Channel but yesterday—to come once more to my dear English home. In Paris, again, everyone was most charming to me. President Poincaré came one night to witness my dancing. He invited me to his box, and paid me most graceful compliments. He is a delightful man.

"And now, Monsieur, may I ask what you think of 'Les Preludes..'"

"Mademoiselle, pray believe that, pour le moment, I find myself entirely at a loss to discover adequate adjectives to enable me to express my sincere admiration for your wonderful art."

On the invitation of Japanese firms in London, a large contingent of Japanese officers and men, arriving by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha Atsuta Maru, visited the London Coliseum on Saturday afternoon. They form a part of the crew sent over to man the new Japanese battleship Kongo, which has just been completed at Barrow.

On the petition of Findlater, Mackie and Co., Ltd., creditors for £140 for goods sold and delivered, Mr. Justice Swinfen Eady, in the Chancery Division of the High Court on Tuesday, made a compulsory order for the winding-up of the Brighton Court Theatre, Ltd.

Seldom have we seen a daintier or smarter number than "The three stages of womanhood," by A. Emmett Adams, featured so successfully at the Coliseum last Monday. Clever Irene Dillon managed her quick changes from child to flapper and bride in excellent style, earning hearty applause.

In Hamilton Sheriff Court on Monday, Mr. E. H. Bostock applied for interdict against "The Kavanaghs," described as "Australia's Greatest Jugglers," who were billed to appear at Scott's Empire, Larkhall, this week, and who have also a future engagement at the Hippodrome, Hamilton. The respondents urged that the interdict should not be granted, as the engagement had been secured for them by agent, and, being complete strangers to the district, they had no idea of how close Larkhall was to Hamilton. Hon. Sheriff-Substitute Stodart, who occupied the bench, said that in view of the facts put before him and of the agreement between respondents and Mr. Bostock, he could not do otherwise than grant the interdict craved.

MARRIAGE OF MR. ALBERT EDWARD BODIE.

SON OF DR. WALFORD BODIE.

The wedding of Miss Edyth Garden, youngest daughter of Mr. John Garden, J.P., Greystone House, Banff, and Albert Edward Bodie, eldest son of Dr. Walford Bodie, the Manor House, Macduff, took place at the Registry Office, Maidstone, on Wednesday, April 16. Owing to recent family bereavements, the marriage was of a quiet nature. After the ceremony a reception was given at the Star Hotel, where about thirty guests, including the father and mother of the bride, sat down to a

MRS. ALBERT E. BODIE.

sumptuous repast. Many telegrams were received and read.

The presents were numerous and costly, including a valuable diamond and ruby bracelet from the bridegroom; costly diamond and sapphire bracelet from Dr. and Mrs. Bodie; and a handsome five-hoop diamond ring from Mrs. Walford Bodie; cheque, etc., from Mr. and Mrs. Garden; solid silver tea service from Mr. and Mrs. Kitchin; case of solid silver fish knives and forks from La Belle Electra; turquoise and pearl bracelet from Miss Nan Skene Henry (aunt of the bridegroom); case of silver-mounted afternoon tea knives, with monogram, from Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Skene Henry (Dr. Bodie's manager); inlaid mahogany tray from Sam Murphy Walford Bodie (brother of the bridegroom); silver chain bag from Miss Shearer Banff; massive solid silver tray from Dr. Bodie's tenants; engraved silver matchbox from Miss Dolly Robson; solid silver coffee service from members and staff of Dr. Bodie's Royal Magnets; and many valuable presents from friends and relations of the bride.

After the lunch, the bride and bridegroom left for London, en route for the Continent, where they will spend their honeymoon.

Owing to the serious illness of Dr. Bodie, Mrs. Bodie was unable to be present. They were represented by Mr. Edward Henry (Mrs. Bodie's eldest brother). Mr. Bodie's charming bride is very popular in local circles of Banff. She is a gifted musician, and possesses a rich mezzo-soprano voice, and has appeared at many charity concerts with success. She is also an ardent golfer, and has won several golf matches in the North.

The bridegroom was intended for the legal profession, and served for five years in the Town Clerk's office, Macduff, but has given up the law to follow in his father's footsteps. He is a gifted artist, many of his paintings adorn the walls of the Manor House; also an excellent ventriloquist and illusionist; and is also making a special study of medical electricity, osteology, or bloodless surgery.

After the return from the honeymoon he will appear with his father at Collins's Music Hall, London, with Glasgow, Edinburgh and Aberdeen to follow; after which he goes for a short holiday to the Manor House, Macduff, when he will be entertained by the doctor's tenantry, who intend

MR. ALBERT E. BODIE.

to give the young laird a hearty welcome home with his charming bride.

J. W. Jackson's Twelve Olympia Girls are opening at the London Coliseum, on May 5, after a very successful Continental tour. Mr. Jackson, it will be remembered, produced the dances in "The Arcadians," in the French version, at the Olympia Theatre, in Paris, just produced.

Miss Esta Stella is very successful at the Holborn Empire and Croydon this week with the Star Co.'s two great songs, "That ripping rag" and "We all promised to go straight home," which are going tremendously, as is Mr. Lloyd Morgan at the Oxford and Empress, Brixton, with the Star's other two songs, "I saw Peter Henry home" and "The rollicking rajah." Altogether, the Star Co. have a wonderful show of premier artistes singing their songs, both in town and country.

A very fashionable matinée in aid of the Dewsbury Lifeboat Saturday Fund was held in the Dewsbury Empire on Tuesday afternoon last, when all the artistes engaged gave their services gratis, in addition to local talent. The spacious hall was crowded, and it was in every way a big success. Thanks from the committee were accorded to the proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith, who lent the hall free of all cost; to Mr. Claude Shayler (general manager) and Mr. E. J. Jackett (assistant manager), who worked hard for its success; also to the artistes and the V.A.F. for granting the necessary permission. The whole of the staff and Mr. E. G. Summerfield's very capable orchestra also gave their services gratuitously, and were warmly thanked for their invaluable assistance.

EDMUND GOULDING.

There is now appearing in the popular Alhambra Revue, "Kill that Fly," a young actor and vocalist, in the person of Mr. Edward Goulding, whose talents—wedded to that flair which is, apparently, so rarely possessed by present-day English actors—should soon bring him into greater prominence. In a chat with an "Era" representative one evening this week, Mr. Goulding revealed himself as a reasonable optimist and enthusiast—quite refreshing to meet in this age, when pessimists never seem to weary of prating about the decadence of all matters appertaining to the stage.

"Yes, I have decided to turn my energies back again from Revue work to Vaudeville," said the young actor. "There appears to be much more scope there, you know, for new ideas, together with a sure result for these—coupled with the right kind of energy. Energy, I think, is the only force which tends to send an object so high that it becomes a real star. And there is so much room in the theatrical firmament for real stars, don't you think? In the cerulean, away from the teeming rush of mediocrity, in the clear, cool (?) land of stars—that is where I seek to scintillate."

"A laudable ambition, surely, and he who does not, well——"

"Yes, but how very many," continued the young enthusiast, "one daily encounters who do nothing but slack, slack? You meet them at every street corner. Young men, affecting variegated socks, long hair, and Trilby hats, and wearing an anxious look. They will tell you what they had done, what old Jones is doing, and, finally, that, at the moment, they themselves are doing nothing. I am of the firm opinion that there is always something to do in this or any profession—for the young man who is ever striding along with some purpose in view: and even if the results bring no immediate advancement, the ultimate outcome must lead to his 'making good.'"

"Agreed. Now, how long have you been following a stage career?"

"For the past four years; and may I say that during that period I have covered a lot of ground? But I don't seem to be going half quickly enough—discontentment, you see! The attack—if one may so term it—started a few weeks after my first engagement, precisely four years ago, in 'Alice in Wonderland,' at the Court Theatre, under the management of Messrs. Stedmans, the famous stage school—of which excellent Academy, by the way, I am still a pupil. The £2 weekly I received for playing the parts of the Walrus

Photo by Bassano

MR. EDMUND GOULDING.

and the King of Hearts made me rich and ambitious—for I had no other resources. During the run of these plays I wrote my first sketch—a farce, of which I had great hopes. I had saved a little money from my weekly (or was it weakly?) salary, and at the end of the run I produced my sketch by myself at the Tivoli, Manchester. A week later I returned with my own little and loyal Company (I was so proud of it) to the Hippodrome, Putney—where, alas! (inexperience will out) it ended. The small success which I achieved in the part, however, secured me several parts in other more successful sketches; and later I made my first stage tour with 'Alice in Wonderland.'

Upon returning to Town I sought that Mecca of all young histrions, and desired to become a London actor. After several weeks' waiting on the doorstep of His Majesty's Theatre, Sir Herbert Tree held out his helping hand to me, and gave me a good part in 'Henry VIII.' During my two years' engagement under his educational Management I carried on business in the daytime as a variety agent. I had no office; I carried my book, etc., in my pocket. At the end of the run of 'Macbeth' my business had developed, and I wrote and produced 'The Under World,' which was a great success; then 'The Hollow Baby,' which I disposed of to Messrs. Bransgrove and Slaughter. This piece is, I learn, still enjoying a gratifying measure of success. Then along came Mr. Montague Leveaux and Mr. George Grossmith, the popular Manager and Author respectively of 'Kill that Fly.' I was offered an engagement in that attractive Revue, and Mr. Leveaux gave me my first real chance in what I consider my right sphere—viz., in the character of Johnny Green: which I take on the halls as a single turn (and which, I am happy to say, is well booked already) at the end of the run of the revue at the Alhambra.

"What is my actual business activity now? Well, I have just concluded a most interesting arrangement with that real 'live' Business Manager and Producer, Burt Earle. We have entered into partnership in connection with several big schemes, and these are well in hand for production on both sides of the Herring Pond."

The Rotherhithe Hippodrome, the favourite waterside variety palace on the south side of the river, is doing excellent business under the able management of Mr. E. P. Durham. It has lately been redecorated in white and gold, and looks quite artistic. We looked in there on Friday evening last week, and, notwithstanding that the prices had been raised for the visit of the Palladium Minstrels, a crowded house testified to the popularity of the programme.

The first annual social and dance of the staff and friends of the Lyceum Theatre, Govan, under the new management, will take place on Friday, April 25, in the Town Hall, Govan, commencing at 12 p.m. The arrangements for this interesting function are in capable hands, and the support of the profession and friends is all that is now required to ensure its success.

We regret to record the death of the young wife of Fred Fyne (of Fyne and Hurley), who passed away on Friday (11th) at the age of thirty. Besides the bereaved husband, the deceased lady leaves a little daughter aged seven to mourn her loss. Mrs. Fyne was buried on Tuesday, at Tooting Cemetery, the funeral being from her residence, 851, Garratt-lane, Tooting.

ARTISTES' PRESS ALBUM.

This column is placed at the disposal of artistes who desire to give added publicity to the opinions passed by the Press upon their acts. Particulars of insertion may be obtained on application to the Advertisement Manager.

OLIVE TEMPEST.

A novel turn is that of Olive Tempest and company—a lady pianist and a singer occupy the stage, while a gentleman in the house collects from the audience slips of paper on which is written a name of a rag-time song and the writer's name. The name of the writer is read out, and immediately the lady on the stage sings the song desired. It is clever work and made a big hit.—"The Era," April 12, 1913.

AMUSEMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

CAPE TOWN, March 18.—Opera House.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Leonard Rayne.—Unrestrained laughter greeted Mr. Leonard S. Stephen's company, who presented to a crowded house "Are You a Mason?" The company includes: L. S. Stephens, Arrol Johnson, Noel Russell, Arthur Treeby, Chas. Willoughby, Mesdames Monica Hanbury, Muriel Mahon, Dolly Arran, Lelia Russell, Eilcen Morris, and Ivy Deane.—Next week (Easter Monday) the Cape Town Amateur Operatic Society appear for six nights in "Merrie England." Booking in advance satisfactory.

Tivoli.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Harry Stodel.—Manager Stodel has again scored another success, for last night a packed house made welcome a strong company. Tom Payne (late of the Wheeler-Edwarde's Company) has gone over to the halls, and his reception was most gratifying. Miss Florence Smithers appears in a comedy sketch, and Miss Alice Pearce at once became a favourite.

CAPE TOWN, March 25.—Opera House.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Leonard Rayne; Sub-Lessees, The C.T.A.O. and D. Society.—"Merrie England" (by kind permission of Messrs. Chappel, of London) was presented last night to a packed house. Taking the production as a whole, the scenery, dresses, and orchestra are perfection, and, indeed, the same can be said of the principals. The chorus is particularly strong and well drilled. Thanks are due to the stage-manager, Mr. Arthur Percival, and the front of the house is ably looked after by Mr. McLoyd.

Tivoli.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Harry Stodel.—An agreeable change took place last night, it being the first appearance of Col. Bardovasay, assisted by Miss Ruby de Fontenoy, who gave a very remarkable exhibition of fancy shooting. A notable turn is provided by Messrs. Byers and Harmann in a spectacular panto., "The Clown's Dream." The Stavordale Quartette and Miss Annie Lisser are paying return visits, and a bright particular star is to appear next week in Miss Harriet Vernon. Business could not be better. Manager Stodel is the right man in the right place.

DURBAN, March 16.—Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr. Arthur De Jong.—Rain throughout the present week has seriously prevented large audiences at any of the halls. Had the conditions been favourable, the Trocadero Orchestra would have had packed houses every night. The rag-time selections introduced by Mr. Jacques Jacobs' orchestra have become very popular.

In connection with Mr. H. B. Irving's visit, I am given to understand that all the stall and circle seats are fully booked for the opening production, "The Lyons Mail."

Alec Hurley, with his brother George, Mademoiselle Margo and Russell, and My Fancy arrived by the Australian Mail on the 15th inst.

Alec Hurley is booked for the new Palladium, Johannesburg, and My Fancy for the Hyman Tour.

Hall by-the-Sea. — Manager, Mr. Edgar Hyman.—One of the best items on the present programme is that given by the Nester Brothers in a comedy cycle act. This act is tip-top, and one of the cleverest seen here. Lola and Otto Tate, in a comedy singing and dancing act, and Harry Herbert (dame comedian), are also in the programme.

Criterion Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. G. Tucker.—The Mojis, described as Japanese Dare Devils, are the principal attraction here. Will Keenen, commonly known as Smiler Bill, is a great favourite, and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finden, in a sketch, were very popular.

JOHANNESBURG, March 17.—His Majesty's.—Lessees, Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler, Ltd.—Mr. H. B. Irving's season.—Stephen Phillips' delightful poetical drama, "The Sin of David," was produced, for three nights only, on Monday evening. It is a credit to Johannesburg that these thre nights were the event of Mr. Irving's season. Although Johannesburg has a leaning towards melodrama, a taste that has been fostered by actor-managers up to now, all the intellectuals assembled at the theatre to pay homage to Mr. Phillips and Mr. Irving. I think I may safely say that the part of Sir Hubert Lisle is the best thing that Mr. Irving has done in South Africa, and his acting is superb. Miss Vera Coburn made an attractive Miriam, and her love scene with Sir Hubert was one of the prettiest scenes ever witnessed on His Majesty's stage. Mr. Henry Vibart played the unsympathetic part of Colonel Mardyke, the strict disciplinarian, and made the most of his part. Of the play itself Mr. Phillips is to be congratulated on the quality and feeling of his poetry and the excellence of the play. To have placed the Biblical story into the Cavalier and Roundhead days was a stroke of genius. I think that London will be delighted with the "Sin of David."

Standard.—Lessee, Mr. Leonard Rayne.—"The Face at the Window" was produced last Monday. Mr. Vincent played the part of Lucio Delgade with vigour and ability, and he was ably assisted by Mr. Malcolm Tearle as Paul Gouffet, the detective. Other members of the company sustained their parts well.

Palladium.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. L. Sacks; General-Manager, Mr. R. B. Young.—Business is booming here. The artistes are Fred Karno's company; Lucy Gillett, juggler; Dillon Shallard's Operatic Trio; Six Flying Banvards; Bellclair Bros., athletes; Gertrude Lester, in rag-time; Madge Osmond, the ideal boy; Millie Jillson, soubrette; Elizabeth Clair, entertainer; Eight Sunrays Girls, and Bert Clerc and Enil Zajah, eccentric dancers; and Alec Hurley, coster comedian.

Empire.—Business has been fairly good. Artistes are Elsie Finney, the diving queen; Mlle. Margetto Jaunitta, the living album; Moran and Tingley, dancers; the Imperial Russian dancers; Alvaretto, Rigo and Stopit; Bros. Dean; A. G. Spry; Marie Ogilvie and the Big Brass Six; the Quaint Q's; and Miss May B. Brilliant.

Orpheum.—Manager, Mr. E. D. Martin.—Artistes last week were Woods, Wells and Wilkins, vocal comedy act; Dancing Gilberts; and Allan Shaw, coin manipulator; and a fine range of films.

Mr. H. B. Irving concluded a very successful season on Saturday. Mr. Irving opens at Durban this evening. The John Ridding Opera Company, supplemented by Signor Galeffi's chorus, open at His Majesty's this evening.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(Continued from page 7.)

IPSWICH.

LYCEUM.—P., The Ipswich Lyceum, Ltd.; L., Messrs. Murray King, Clarke, and W. H. Savery; R. M., Mr. Cecil P. Blumberg; Mus. D., Mr. H. Lowin Taylor.—This week: Mr. James E. Persse's company in modern comedy. Monday and Tuesday, and matinée on Saturday, "Ready Money"; Wednesday and Thursday "His House in Order"; Friday and Saturday, "The Crucible." The company includes: Mr. Frank Fenton, Mr. Ashmore Vincent, Mr. Chesney Allen, Mr. Frank McKee, Mr. E. Garton, Mr. David Kempe, Mr. Chas. A. James, Mr. Herbert J. Walton, Mr. Vernon Keith, Mr. Arthur Ryleston, Mr. Bernard Gold, Mr. James Russon, Mr. W. Stacey, Miss Gwendolin Carlisle, Miss Brenda Harvey, and Miss Beatrice Ranken. Preceded by "Delicate Ground." Next week: "The Yeomen of the Guard," by local amateurs.

HIPPODROME.—Sole P., Mr. E. H. Bostock; R. M., Mr. E. Gordon Bostock.—This week: "Something for Nothing," by Fred Conquest and company; Mr. Tom E. Hughes, comedian; Herbert Clifton, female impersonator; the Brothers Carpati, horizontal bar performers; Frank le Dent, comedy juggler; Mint and Mart, trick cyclists; the Three Lyndons, dancers; and pictures.

JARROW.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. and M., Mr. Hugh Robertson; A. M. and S., Mr. T. Edward Evans.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Herbert Skardon presents "Black-Eyed Susan." The company includes: Mr. Herbert Skardon, Mr. Cyprian H. Matthews, Mr. Beckett Bould, Mr. Newton Pearce, Mr. A. Edward Brooke, Mr. Leo. R. Neilson, Mr. James Telford, Mr. F. Dornan, Mr. G. L. Williams, Miss May Beatrice, Miss Doris Brookes, and Miss Nancy Mitchell. Next week: "The Light of the World."

EMPIRE.—P., The Jarrow Theatres, Ltd.; M., Mr. Percy Dawsone.—This week: Butt and Ward, vocal duettists; Durazcoe and Azella, ring and balancers; Williams and Parker, Cambrian humorists and vocalists; and pictures.

KETTERING.

COLISEUM.—P., Messrs. Thompson Bros.; M., Mr. A. Thompson.—This week: Mr. Maurice C. Lee's company in "Cinders on Skates," including Miss Kitty Rafferty, Miss E. Rafferty, Miss Helen Drew, Mr. Byron Douglas, Mr. Jack Darby, Mr. J. McLestor, Mr. J. Francis, Mr. Jackson Hylton, and Mr. A. A. Lennie.

PALACE.—P., The Palace Theatres, Ltd.; M., Mr. J. G. Covington.—This week: Haley's Komets; George Hirst, comedian; Daisy Griff, comedienne; and pictures.

KILMARNOCK.

KING'S THEATRE.—L., Lillie Williams and Co.; M., Thomas Rodger.—This week: Martin Breedes, strong man and wrestler; Oscar King, illusionist; Wee Dorothy; Bonnetti and Corri, comedy jugglers; MacKays, sunshine troupe of dancers; Teddy Stream, comedian; Hosk and Hosken.

PALACE.—M., Mr. J. Cummings.—This week: Consul Pedro, the almost human Chimpanzee; the New York Comedy Four; Erchie Glen; and pictures.

LANCASTER.

GRAND.—L. and M., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. Tom Braithwaite; Mus. D., Mr. John Parker.—This week (once nightly): H. Montague Ashley and Campbell Goldsmid present "With Edged Tools." Cast includes: Mr. Russell Norrie, Mr. Fred Emery, Mr. Murray Yorke, Mr. Max Copland, Mr. Alfred Conway, Mr. George Brough, Mr. Campbell Goldsmid, Miss Patty Groves, Miss Muriel Haydn, Miss Edith Anton-Laing, and Miss Maud Morton Powell. T. M., Mr. Scott Beresford. Next week: "A Woman Without a Soul."

LEAMINGTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., David Allen and Son's Theatres, Ltd.; Sole L. & D., Mr. C. S. Birch; M., Mr. H. Trenby Birch.—This week (Thursday, Friday, and Saturday): Arthur Hart and Leslie Moreton's company in "The Arcadians." Cast includes: Mr. Alf. Selby, Mr. Edward Jefferson, Mr. Walter Elagert, Mr. Lauri Aster, Mr. Hugh Lyndhurst, Mr. George Dinnis, Mr. G. B. White, Mr. Claude Lawson, Mr. Fred Croxton, Mr. Horace Nye, Miss Minnie Rayner, Miss L. Crawford, Miss Gladys Gill, Miss Jean Leslie, Miss J. Davies, Miss Laura Laughton, Miss Isabel Butler, Miss Billie Brame, Miss Ettie Critchley, Miss Alma White, Mr. Jack Page, Mr. Leonard Slater, Mr. Paul Jackson, Miss Mabel Funstan. Next week: The Moody-Manners Opera Co.

LEEDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. Francis Laidler; G. M., Mr. Nathaniel Hepworth; A. M., Mr. George H. Almond.—This week (twice nightly, and Tuesday matinée, 2.30): Mr. and Mrs. John Millane's company in "A White Slave." Cast includes: Mr. John S. Millward, Mr. J. O. Stewart, Mr. Edwin Maydew, Mr. Geo. Porteous, Mr. Oliver Seymour, Mr. W. Passmore, Mr. Oswald Peters, Mr. A. Williams, Mr. Arthur Ross, Mr. Frank Evans, Mr. James Nevill, Mr. John Miller, Mr. Fred James, Mr. Ernest Dutton, Mr. William Walsh, Miss Olga Jefferson, Miss V. St. Lawrence, Miss Mabel Rose. B. M., Mr. John S. Millward. Next week: "When London Sleeps."

GRAND.—P., Theatre and Opera House, Ltd.; M. D. and Licensee, Mr. John Hart.—This week (once nightly, and Saturday matinée, 2): The Carl Rosa Opera Co. in "The Magic Flute" (Monday), "Tannhauser" (Tuesday), "The Bohemian Girl" (Wednesday), "Carmen" (Thursday), "Jewels of the Madonna" (Friday), "Magic Flute" (matinée), "Il Trovatore" (Saturday). Cast includes: E. C. Hedmondt, Arthur Winckworth, Frederick Clendon, Charles Neville, Felix Fleischer, Leslie Austin, William O'Connor, Elizabeth Burgess, Annie Mackenzie, Signe Becker, Jean Douglas Wilson, Winifred Geverding, Gladys Deane, Janet Hemsley, Dorothy Lawson Tayler, and Beatrice Miranda. Next week: "Gipsy Love."

QUEEN'S.—P., Mr. F. W. Wood; M. and Licensee, Mr. Charles Bush.—This week (twice nightly, matinée, Monday, 2.30): Mr. Stuart Lomath's company in "The Mill Girl and the Miner." Cast includes: Mr. Stuart Lomath, Mr. Geo. Edwin Clive, Mr. Hugh Travers, Mr. Sam Roberts, Mr. Tom Armitage, Mr. Charles Trever, Mr. Harry Emerson, Mr. W. Myers, Mr. Reginald Bage, Mr. John Strong, Mr. Tom Woods, Mr. D. Little, Miss Amber Wyville, Miss Ellen Owen Lomath, Miss Kitty Johnston, Miss Connie Tremayne. Next week: "Whom God Hath Joined."

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D. Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. P. C. Rowe.—This week (twice nightly): "Hullo, Ragtime!" a revue; Talbot and Pearce, in vocal scena; Dave Bryant, comedian; Harry Grey, the Australian nugget; Olive Armidale, soubrette; A. D. Robbins, the cycle tamer; and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—R. M. & Licensee, Mr. Bertram J. Brown; Mus. D., Mr. Herbert W. Lister.—This week (twice nightly): "What Ho! Ragtime," revue, composed and produced by Austen Hurgon, including Daisy Yates, Gertrude Bamberger, Phyllis Ruffell, Darrell Richards, Sinclair and Willie Robins; the Warrington Trio; Evelyn Taylor, comedienne; Gaby Revette, in her art studies; the Rallis and Wilson Trio; Rose and Challoner, the porter and the singer; Victor Kelly; pictures. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30.

VARIETIES.—P. & Licensee, Mr. F. W. Wood; M., Mr. Harry Dunford; Asst. M., Mr. Fox Nelson.—This week (twice nightly): Morny Cash, comedian; Adkin, ventriloquist; Four Broadway Boys, entertainers; Vernon and Mars Trio, gymnasts; East and Wood, comedians; Emily Vine, comedian; Hall and Moore, entertainers; and pictures.

LEICESTER.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—P. and M., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; B. M., Mr. W. J. Andrews; Mus. C., Herr Theo Klee.—After a lengthy absence, Julia Neilson and Fred Terry are paying a most welcome return engagement here. So hearty was their reception on Monday, when they opened with the romantic play, "Sweet Nell of Old Drury," that they had to repeatedly appear after each curtain, and at the termination Mr. Terry was compelled to make a speech in acknowledgment of the warm welcome extended to them from a crowded house. As Charles II. Mr. Terry is seen at his very best, his impersonation throughout being one of his finest. Miss Julia Neilson, as the orange girl, Nell Gwyn, captivated the entire audience, and her success was most conspicuous. Miss Neilson and Mr. Terry are backed up by a company of all round excellence, including Miss Mollie Terraine, as Lady Olivia Vernon; Miss Violet Farebrother, as Lady Castlemaine; Miss Betty Bellairs, as the Duchess of Portsmouth; Mr. Denis J. Hegan, as Jeffreys; and Mr. Alfred Kendrick, as Sir George Fairfax. A special feature was the staging of the play, and the beautiful manner in which it was dressed.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole L. and M., Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; A. M., Mr. P. Allerton Turner; Mus. C., Mr. J. H. Vann.—A return visit is being paid here this week by the Lodge-Percy repertory company, who opened their engagement on Monday evening with the military sporting drama, "The Woman He Wanted," in which Miss Henrietta Schrier, as "the woman," Yvonne de Lye, is seen to considerable advantage; and Mr. Lodge-Percy, as Captain Osric Valcarnia, is also most successful. On Friday evening "Camille" was given for Miss Schrier's benefit, with that lady in the chief part.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; A. M., Mr. George F. Reynolds; Asst. M., Mr. W. F. Stewart; Mus. C., Mr. John W. Lowe.—At the top of this week's bill is George Lashwood, the immaculate light comedian, who has to sing five songs before the audience reluctantly allow him to leave the stage, so great is his popularity at this hall. At the other end is Leipzig, a remarkably smart conjurer, his card tricks being performed in a deft and bewildering manner. The Five Petleys are very good in their thoroughly enjoyable comedy aerial act; and plenty of laughter is created by Drew and Alders in their sketch, "The Coastguards." Lydia and Amelys, the Parisian dancers, repeat their successes; and Herbert Rule goes well with his song, "Woolloomooloo." Edith Fink is a pretty and dainty comedienne; and Amos Howard is a capital coon comedian and smart dancer. Bioscope pictures complete.

PAVILION THEATRE.—P., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; B. M., Mr. Joseph Lawrence; Mus. C., Mr. Fred Butcher.—Mr. Otto Minster and company, including Miss Vashti Wynne, are making a deserved success in the Californian dramatic episode, "The Sky Pilot." Little Eddy Lyle and his big brother, Larry, a clever comedy duo, create endless merriment; Broncho, a thoroughbred mustang, introduced by Texas and Flo, is put through a most interesting performance; Kimberley and Melbourne are entertaining comedians; and Dalkeith does clever sketches and gags well as a cartoonist in his comedy, "Chalk and Chatter"; Tom Purslow is a funny eccentric comedian; and Frances Kinders excels as a dancer. Pictures complete.

EMPIRE.—Sole L., The New Bioscope Trading Company; R. M., Mr. Charles R. Craig.—Will Ireland, cornet soloist and character vocalist, is making a success here. There is also a good programme of films.

LIVERPOOL.

ROYAL COURT.—P., Messrs. Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham; G. M., Mr. George T. Minshull; A. M., Mr. Arthur Lawrence.—A really delightful presentation of "The Dancing Mistress" is given here this week by Mr. George Edwardes' company. It is staged in sumptuous style, and the various pictures, particularly the Alpine scene, called forth loud praise. Miss Dora Fraser in the title-rôle gains great favour, and is accorded loud applause for her singing and charming dancing. Mr. Louis Bradfield proves eminently successful, his Teddy Cavanagh provoking roars of laughter; Mr. Edward D'Arcy is a funny Widdicombe; Mr. Guy de Feuvre as the Baron helps greatly, his singing of "When you are in love" being especially acceptable; Miss Rita Presano makes an amusing French mistress; and another worthy supporter is Miss Luna Love (Jeannie McTavish). The musical director is Mr. Thomas Tunbridge.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. W. W. Kelly; A. M., Mr. John Gaffney; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Shea.—The famous Russian Ballet is on a return visit. Included among the artistes, all of whom were received with great enthusiasm, are Mlle. Lunina, M. Alexis Kosloff, Mlle. Blanchetta, and M. Tiratzin. The programme consists of "Les Sylphides," "La Statue," "Divertissement," and "Scheherazade." M. Mendlevitch is conductor.

ROTUNDA.—M., Mr. M. Montgomery; A. M., Mr. Fred Coles; Mus. D., Mr. Noel Vincent.—Here on Monday evening a stock company opened with "Secrets." The manager of the theatre has decided to try the experiment of having his own artistes, and intends to give sound drama twice nightly. The innovation was received with much favour during the week. Mr. J. Scott Leighton played Lieut. Markham in effective manner; a good performance of the Caliph came from Mr. George E. Butler; Miss Josephine Coloma very sweetly impersonated Ismalia, and found much favour; Miss F. Melrose Millett was a dignified Zulieka; and other good supporters were Messrs. Frank H. St. Clair (Hon Cecil Cholmondeley), John Davidson (Breezy Bill), E. D. Allen (Khahld), and Miss Laurie O'Neill (Winnie).

REPERTORY.—G. M., Mr. Basil Dean; B. M., Mr. T. J. Pigott; Mus. D., Mr. Joseph Smith.—Here this week was produced a new play, "The Conynghams," a notice of which appears in another column. At two matinées Miss Jean Stirling Mackinlay and Mr. Harcourt Williams gave a charming assortment of old ballads and songs, which were listened to with much attention and pleasure. The elocutionary powers of both artistes are of a very high order.

KELLY'S.—L., Mr. W. W. Kelly; A. M., Mr. Reginald Grant; Mus. D., Mr. J. A. Gardner.—"The Cattle Thief," with Mr. George A. Street's company, has held the boards here during the week. Mr. Bud Mitchell very powerfully enacted Mardo; Miss Amy Ellis was a neat Arabella Tickney; Miss Kathleen Russell showed plenty of spirit in the part of Kit Larson, and also in the cast were Messrs. Herbert Fox, Frank Orchard, Edward Dobson, and W. E. Jackman. The play was well put on, the various scenes of the Wild West being particularly effective.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. George Manners; Asst. M., Mr. Arthur Hicks; Mus. D., Mr. George M. Saker.—Top of the bill here this week is "The Golden Harvest," a new turn, described as a gorgeous vision from dawn to sunset, presented by Mr. George Webster, and staged by Mr. Frank Parker. The arrangement is representative of a valentine set in a frame, and looks particularly pretty. In a semi-circle are half a dozen girls holding harps, and in the centre a lady who desired to remain unknown, and who earns rounds of applause for her talented playing of a harp and her rendering of several solos, which show the possession of a rich voice. The lighting effects are especially good, and the entertainment deserved the cordial recognition it received. Mr. R. A. Roberts, the protean actor, repeats his "Dick Turpin" sketch, and earns loud applause; Tom Jones, the Welsh comedian, is as funny as ever; Revin and Pimple have a smart new act, "The Funny Cannon King"; Maisie Dene pleases with her eccentric dancing; Lily Edwards renders songs in good style; Bert Terrell proves diverting with his Dutch characters; Lievin and Pantzer have a smart acrobatic act, "A Lesson in Physical Culture"; and Bissett and Scott are able representative dancers.

LYRIC.—L., Liverpool Lyric Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Mus. D., Mr. R. Klasse.—Foremost here this week is Amasis, a particularly clever magician and illusionist; Musicus provides a neat musical comedy act; Hettie Zillwood pleases with her songs; Adeline Yohle and James Curry cause much laughter with their sketch, "Difficulties"; the Donna Trio of equilibrists and gymnasts submit a talented turn; the Four Huzzar Girls have a taking vocal, dancing and comedy act; and Jack Hylton amuses with his songs.

PAVILION.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. George F. Slatter; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Braham.—Top of the programme is Mme. Victor Andre, with her able thought-reading act; the Glenroy Troupe of dancers and vocalists are greeted with applause; Tim Carlisle is a merry comedian; Herbert Shelley earns approval for his protean act, "Dan, the Outlaw"; Rembrandt has a clever picture-painting act; Darnell and company present an astonishing trifle, "The Real Magic Shop," which introduces some neat illusions; the Four Newburys have some rag-time songs, and dance well; the Hamamura Family of Japanese jugglers present sensational and new tricks; and the Billiqueens have a novelty doll act.

ROYAL PALACE.—M., Mr. M. Montgomery; A. M., Mr. Frank O'Toole.—Here this week the stock company gave "A Vagabond King," among the principal artistes being Messrs. Paul Neville, Herbert Vere, Henry Carlisle, R. Seath Innes, Miss Gwynne Warren, and Miss Lalla Stanhope.

OLYMPIA.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. E. W. James; Asst. M., Mr. D. Casey; Mus. D., Mr. Albert Moore.—"The Miracle" has put in its third and last week. Each evening the house was packed twice, and there were no seats obtainable at the two matinées.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. Walter Hassan; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Stokes.—Heading the bill is Erard's Vaudevillians, accomplished vocalists and instrumentlists; Scott and Whaley raised many a laugh with their songs and patter; the Terry Twins are a diverting couple; Pedersen Bros. go through a clever aerial performance; the two Madcaps show ability as wooden-shoe dancers; and others in the list include Bert Williams, ventriloquist; Colley and Scott, in comedy tit-bits; Alice Hollander, a charming singer; and the Four Kitches, comedy cyclists.

LINCOLN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Messrs. W. Payne Seddon and Pope; R. M., Mr. Percy Tyler.—This week: Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday (once nightly): Mr. George Edwardes presents "The Count of Luxembourg." The company includes: Mr. Fred Fowler, Mr. Mansell Stringer, Mr. Barnard Moore, Mr. Dutton Nicholls, Mr. Franklin Davies, Mr. J. Western, Mr. Allen Forde, Mr. Bevan Browne, Mr. J. Sharland, Mr. Howard V. Cropton, Miss Clarice Lockstone, Miss Joan Pereira, Miss Madge Broadwood, Miss Dora Keys, Miss Lillas Geary, Miss Lucy Craigie, Miss Sadrene Storri, Miss Ruby Tattarsall. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30. T. M., Mr. Barnard Moore.

LONGTON.

QUEEN'S.—P., Longton Theatre, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. H. Sheriff Howard.—This week (twice nightly): The Queen's Repertory Company in "The Cotton Spinner." Cast includes: Mr. F. B. Woulfe, Mr. F. Pettingell, Mr. Ernest R. Allen, Mr. Terry Davies, Mr. James Salter, Mr. William Gardiner, Mr. J. Meadows, Miss Gertrude Glanmor, Miss Amy McNeill, Miss Edith Loraine. Next week: "Oliver Twist."

LUTON.

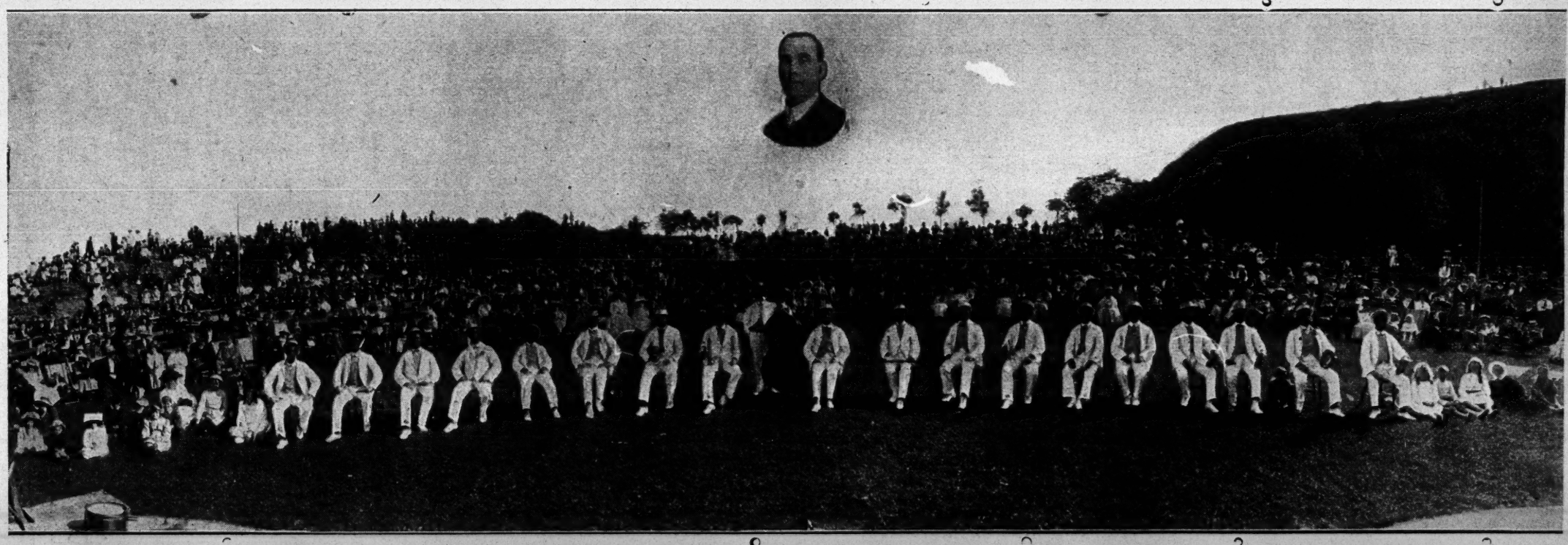
GRAND THEATRE.—P., Mr. E. Graham-Falcon; B. M., Mr. Louis J. Beard.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Charles H. Lester presents (Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday) "The Frontier Queen." The company includes: Mr. Chas. H. Lester, Henry Johnson, John Talford, Henry C. Gilpin, Henry Bowler, Alf Powell, Chief Eagle Elk, Edward O'Grady, James Underwood, W. Murray Johns, Harry Field, A. W. Howson, A. Bancroft, Pat Pan Issher, James Stephenson, A. Mowbray, E. Harold, Reeves Hickton, Miss M. Majilton, Miss Dorothy Riddell, Miss Beatrice Anderson. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday: Mr. W. V. Garrod presents "The Sledge-Hammer." The company includes: Mr. Maxwell Davidson, Mr. Robert Gilbert, Mr. Carthage Caldcleugh, Mr. Charles Halling, Mr. F. S. Stewart, Mr. Owen Remonde, Mr. Frank Dallas, Mr. John B. Murray, Mr. James Hart, Mr. Fred Dalton, Miss Mabel Durham, Miss Jessie Yatman, Miss Maude Merrick.

MANCHESTER

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., The United Theatres Co., Ltd.; Licensee and M. D., Mr. John Hart; A. M., Mr. Edmondstone Shirra; Mus. D., Mr. C. W. Chambers.—Mr. E. G. Hemmerde's romance of the Highlands, "Proud Maisie," was presented here before a large and interested audience on Monday. The production is under the management of Mr. Arthur Hardy, and has every desirable embellishment in the way of scenery and dresses, while the action is accompanied by very good music, under the admirable conductorship of Mr. Brigata Bucalossi, and composed by Mr. Hamilton Harty. The principal rôles are Lady Maisie and Neil McAlpine, very ably filled by Miss Laura Cowie and Mr. Vernon Steel respectively, while others who distinguish themselves are Mr. Rohan Clensy as Prince Charles Stuart, Mr. J. J. Bartlett as the Earl of Pitcour, and Mr. Henry Le Grand as Guy, Lord Monteith. Incidental songs are sung by Miss Ethel Tuson and Mr. Frank Esmond. The play is preceded by "The Autocrat of the Coffee Stall," an interesting street episode, by Harold Chapin.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—M. D. & Licensee, Mr. John Hart; A. M., Mr. George Lee; Mus. D., Mr. Chas. W. Chambers.—A first visit here of Mr. Robt. Courteidge's comedy with music, "Princess Caprice," is to be recorded. On the opening night a fine performance was given, the production going with a swing from start to finish. In the title-rôle Miss Marie Blanche is delightful throughout, her singing and acting being excellent; whilst Miss Isobelle Dillon as Anna charms with a very smart and pleasing performance. Miss Mary Dandridge as Princess Clementine is daintiness personified,

MAKE MONEY WHILE THE BOOM IS ON



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and her dancing is extremely graceful. Continued laughter is associated with Mr. Eric Thorne the whole of the time he is on the stage. As Bogumil he is great, fairly revelling in the part. Mr. Gordon Cleather as Augustin Hofer sings well and acts with distinction; Mr. Henry Frankiss plays nicely as Jasomir; Mr. Jo Monkhouse is capital as the Prime Minister; Mr. Harry Ray as Prince Nicola is quite at home, and his dancing is good; Mr. Horace Lingard does well as Matthews; and Mr. James Stevenson as the head bailiff makes the most of his opportunities. Some smart dancing is done by Mr. Leslie Vernon as Ensign Pips. The scenery is excellent and the dresses superb, whilst the incidental dances arranged by Espinosa are all delightful. The orchestra and chorus is under the able direction of Mr. Edwin Thornton.

GAIETY.—Sole P. and Licensee, Miss A. E. F. Horniman: A. M., Mr. W. Roberts-Marshall; Mus. D., Nikolai Sokoloff.—This week sees a repetition here of Frank H. Rose's fairy play, "The Whispering Well," which made so promising a success on its original production three weeks ago, and which was fully noticed then. The cast remains the same, and the play has undergone some telling improvements. It is preceded by George Calderson's powerful one-act drama, "The Little Stone House," the sinister part of the stranger being played by Mr. Russell Thorndike, and the other rôles are in capable hands. Two matinées, by Miss Jean Sterling MacKinlay, assisted by Mr. Harcourt Williams, are also in the week's entertainment.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. J. Brearley; Mus. D., Mr. J. Colton.—Messrs. Arthur Shirley and E. Hull-Mitchelson's powerful romantic drama, "I Defy the World," is presented here this week by Mr. Harry Bristow, Miss Maud Tempest and company, by arrangement with Miss Maud Malvern. The picturesque features of the play are well brought out, and the acting throughout is brisk and clever. Miss Maud Tempest's impersonation of Pauline Delaporte, the General's daughter, is decidedly attractive, and the strong work of Mr. Harry Bristow as the implacable Count de Beaulieu is also a striking feature; while Mr. E. Holland Day makes a dignified and heroic Leon Darville, and Miss Ethel Dean acts well as Blanche, his faithless wife.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. C. W. Meek; Mus. D., Mr. Edward Bleasdale.—Arthur White and company, in "The New Detective," provide a prominent and amusing turn in a strong bill here this week; Harry Thornton and Emma Wagner, American entertainers, are excellent in music and song; Harry Taft, comedian, gives a smart and original turn; Lewis's Mannikins are a distinctly entertaining show; Dexter gives a skilled exhibition of speedy drawing with both hands at once; an accomplished gymnastic performance by Azella Wilson is duly appreciated; Wee Josie, a dainty little comedienne and dancer, is very well received; and other good turns are Bert Eden, a clever comedian; and Jim Nolan, a versatile comedian, in latest successes.

JUNCTION THEATRE. — P., Messrs. William Broadhead and Son; Asst. M., Mr. John Mason.—Fred Granville's Productions, Ltd., company are playing here in the domestic drama, "Another Man's Wife," by Miles Wallerton. The big part of Lucia de Vergas is ably and attractively sustained by Miss Eileen Desmond, supported in fine style by Mr. Edwin George as Carlo de Vergas, while the sinister interests of the story are well developed by Mr. Edwin Davies as Paul Bernstoff and Miss Madeline Hurst as Inez de Castro. Mr. Sammy Foster contributes enjoyable fun as Sam Smiles.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; A. M., Mr. Edward M. Hamilton; Mus. D., Mr. C. H. Bayley.—Mr. T. Edward Ward's company, in "The Slave Girl," are presenting here in excellent style a capital story of America's fight for freedom. The company is so entirely good that it is difficult to differentiate between the various members of the cast, but those who carry forward the bulk of the work are Miss Ward in the title-rôle, Mr. H. Arnold Allen as the heroic Captain Edward Hamilton, and Mr. Fred Rivers as Crawford, the overseer of the plantation, the humorous element being contributed by Mr. Tom May as Smart, the Yankee pedlar, and Miss [illegible]y Rennior as Angelina. The play is very well staged.

HIPPODROME.—P., Manchester Hippodrome and Ardwick Empire, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Horace Cole; Asst. M., Mr. Arthur G. Trussell; Mus. D., Mr. Alfred Haines. — Miss Billie Burke presents here the famous Japanese prima donna soprano, Mme. Sumikie, who sings songs in Japanese and English, including the inevitable "Alexander's Rag-time Band." She has a most artistic setting and is ably assisted by B. S. Takaori. The O'Mahonys, a trio of talented vocalists, make a big hit in Irish songs and melodies; Corn and Yorkey give an original turn of rag-time music on the violin and piano; Juggling Nelson is responsible for a clever and amusing act; and Dorma Morgan charms with her dainty and attractive style. Silkworm studies on the Bioscope provide an instructive show. Mr. Hengler's romantic spectacle, "In the Balkans," still remains in the bill.

EMPIRE.—M. D., Mr. Oswald Stoll; A. M., Mr. Horace Cocks; Mus. C., Mr. R. Hardwick.—A brilliant programme here features Victoria Monks, who makes a great hit in her latest successful songs; Rinaldo, the wandering violinist, in a remarkable performance; and Macdonald and Young's production of "The River Girl," a spectacular musical sketch, notable chiefly for the excellent comedy of Horace Jones. Another popular turn is that of Fred Barnes, who quite captivates the audience with his bright and accomplished rendering of catchy songs; while other enjoyable items are contributed by Sergeant Brennan, in a startling and expert "diabolist" performance; the Crisps, in song and dance; Harold and Bennett, in a comedy mélange; and Harry Taylor, Lancashire comedian.

PALACE.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; M., Mr. Peter Watson; S. and Asst. M., Mr. Jesse Hewitt; Mus. D., Mr. T. H. Gaggs.—The programme here consists mainly of John Tiller's spectacular production, "Lively Lucerne." It is done in three scenes, namely, Lucerne, The Dairy, and The Fete; the first and last being on an elaborate and brilliant scale. The chief interest is in the multitude and variety of the ballets introduced, all of them carried through faultlessly and with richness of colour. Edwin Jaye as Peter Muggs, J. J. Dallas as Marmaduke Montgomery, Doris Cooke as Norah, James Rous and May Blossom as Patrick and Maggie O'Flynn, Leslie Cliff as Viscount Highlow, Elizabeth Wieland as Pimpernel, and Joe Desmond as the goat, are the principals, and there is a "Beauty chorus" of sixty. The production is preceded by two other turns, Les Tziganes, in a fine ballet scene, depicting love and life in a gipsy camp, and Arthur Page, who sings some amusing Lancashire dialect songs.

KING'S.—P., Messrs. Wm. Hy. Broadhead and Son; G. M., Mr. Harry Winstanley; R. A. M., Mr. J. R. Trippett; Mus. D., Mr. David Booth.—Mr. J. Newton Cowling's company is appearing here with success in Mrs. Kimberley's latest domestic drama, "The Collier's Lass," a highly effective Lancashire play. As Grace Copley, the collier's lass, Miss Edith Rutland plays nicely, and Mr. Stanley Radcliff scores as Tom Fielding. A capital character study is the Mary Ellen Nuttall of Miss Bella Moody, who, with Mr. William H. Melrose—excellent as John Willie Hay—provides most of the fun. Other prominent parts are well sustained by Mr. David Curtis, Mr. Kenneth Jackson, Mr. Ben Cass, Mr. Bert Johnson, Miss Annie Graham, and Miss Helen Beverley. The scenery is good.

TIVOLI.—P., Tivoli (Manchester); M. D., Mr. Chas. A. Wilkes; A. M., Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes; Mus. D., Mr. George Neilson.—"A Girl in Possession," presented in effective style by Mr. Stanley Brett and Miss Billie Sinclair, is the top "star" turn here. A novel item is the clever and amusing performance of the dumb, droll Charles F. Hill, in "Serving a Summons." Jack Baker is capital in vocal tit-bits; Iris Banfield is a dainty comedienne; and other good and enjoyable turns are offered by Alec Lawson, wooden shoe dancer and acrobatic comedian; Le Hurst, ventriloquist; Little Sunbeam, comedienne; and Barry Mills and Kitty Mac in talk and burlesque. Ruffell's pictures complete.

HULME HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. Wm. Hy. Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. Fred Dry; Mus. D., Mr. Harry Walker.—The famous Leslie Bros. in their original eccentric act, "Music Mad," are very funny, and make a hit. The Sisters Grant, juvenile American buck dancers, are excellent; the Adras go through a clever and sensational equilibristic head and hand-balancing act; and Jilen Ouin's Dogs give a smart performance. Charles Coborn, the well-known comedian, is well received; Max Rivers and Mamie Sullivan are first-rate dancers; Mark Leslie, the swell coon, is good; and other smart turns are those of Roland and Mack, comedy acrobats and equilibrists; and Moore and Sumner in entertaining vocal items.

OPENSHAW ALHAMBRA. — L., Alhambra (Manchester), Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Arthur S. Evanson.—"The Two Little Drummer Boys," excellently played by the Alhambra Stock Co., under the direction of Mr. Tom H. Taylor, is a big attraction here. As usual with this company all the parts are well sustained, notably Miss Molly Hackett and Miss Louise Hampton as the two little drummer boys, Mr. John Bilton, Mr. Harry Tresham, Mr. Alfred D. Adams, Mr. Ivor Smith, Mr. William A. Armour, Mr. Percy Boucher, Mr. J. Templar Ellis, Miss Mary Dawson, Miss Dorothy Richards, and Miss Frances J. May. The drama is well mounted. A special engagement of the St. Brigid's Drum and Fife Band adds to the effect of the production.

LESLIE'S PAVILION, RUSHOLME.—Sole P. & M., Mr. Harry Leslie; A. M., Mr. George Phillips.—Mr. Eric Fielding presents his new company, the So and So's, here. The combination—a very strong one—includes Maude Phillips, Ethel Beech, Alice Travers, Laurence Turney, Stuart Fraser, Wensley Russell, and Eric Fielding. An excellent all-round show. Next week: Mr. D'Arcy Clayton's Gipsies and Jesters.

KING'S HOTEL, OXFORD-ROAD.—R. Davies, Proprietor.

MARGATE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M., Mr. Frank Weathersby.—This week (once nightly): Miss Estelle Stead and Mr. Farmer Skein present: Monday, "The Taming of the Shrew"; Tuesday, "Richard III."; Wednesday, "The Merchant of Venice"; Thursday, "Romeo and Juliet"; Friday, "Hamlet"; Saturday, "The Taming of the Shrew" (at 2.45 and 8). T. M., Mr. Leonard O'Neill. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.45. Next week: "A Mother's Love."

HIPPODROME.—P., South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. James Mayall.—This week (twice nightly): American Rag-timers; Ted Saunders, mimic; King and King, comedians; the Rizarelis, acrobats; Re Car Trio, acrobats; Julian Mack; and pictures.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. J. W. Wilkinson.—This week: "The Lion and the Mouse," presented by Mr. Ernest E. Norris. The company includes: Messrs. Ernest E. Norris, Chris. Melling, Jack Hellier, Arthur Wilson, Edwin A. Wheeler, Harold Greaves, Gerald Norden, Misses Ray Parry, Viola March, Mary Kingsley, Agnes Drucesmith, and Marjorie Clutterbuck.

TEMPERANCE HALL AND CENTRAL CINEMA.—S. & M., Mr. Israel Price.—This week (twice nightly): Alex Piccad's company in "The Burglars of New Yorke"; Athelda, lady athlete; Mabel Comely, comedienne; the Lachenals, musical entertainers; Jack Clare, chocolate-coloured coon; the Wallace Trio, in a vocal and dancing act; and pictures.

MEXBOROUGH.

MONTAGU ARMS.—Prof. House. Proprietor, Mr. F. J. Law.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—L., Mr. J. Chas. Imeson.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George Dance presents "Kismet." The company includes: Hubert Carter, Ernest Gifford, Walter Lindsay, Philip Fuller, Eric Burrows, F. W. Ford, Gerald Hamer, A. Henry, G. Shaw, Geo. R. Montford, Amy Fanchette, Aimee Norman, Misses Price and Delisse, H. C. Brett, Frederick Annerley, Dennis Wyndham, Leo Tell, Walter Lind, Harry Drew, J. Wilson, Arthur Gwyn, Evelyn Ray, Francis Hathaway, Cythia Raymond, Ida Chichester, Nina Lyn, and Georgina Milne. T. M., Mr. C. Burrunston Williams. Matinée, Saturday, at 2 p.m. Next week "Hindle Wakes."

MOTHERWELL.

NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—P., New Century Theatres, Ltd.; L., Mr. R. C. Buchanan; M., Mr. John A. Walker.—This week (twice nightly): "From Mill Girl to Millionairess," produced by Mr. Morton Powell's company. The company includes: Misses Pattie Hastings, Florence Hamilton, Emily Huby, Irene Carrington, Lizzie Lennon, Mabel Roselle, Arnie May, Lucy Lauder, Marion Mason, and Messrs. Alfred Stretton, Frederick Freeman, J. A. Hybert, Richard Webb, C. H. L. Locke, E. R. Shrewd, Albert Sangar.

EMPIRE.—P., Atkinson's Electric Theatres, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. F. Cunliffe.—This week: Mollie Lindsay and company in "The Washing House Key," by J. M. Hamilton; Henry Hilton, magician; Nellie Forbes, comedienne; Bros. Parr, patter comedians; Keir and Kempton, Scotch vocalists; and pictures.

NEATH.

GNOLL HALL.—P., Gnoll Picture and Variety Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Vivian Aldridge; Mus. D., Mr. G. M. Butt.—This week (twice nightly): Florence and Rose Showell, duettists; Jack and Jill, comedy duo; Joe Archer, comedian; pictures. Picture matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PALACE.—P., Vint's Theatres, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Leon Vint; R. M., Mr. E. Gilley.—This week (twice nightly, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday): Phyllis Dare and George Grossmith, in "The Argentine Tango"; Yamamoto and Miss Koyoshi Troupe, equilibrists and entertainers; Hylda Lethwaite, soprano; Eddie McCoy and Co., in "A Rough Handful"; pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

TYNE THEATRE.—L., Messrs. Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; M. D., Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; B. M., Mr. Fred C. Sutcliffe.—This week (once nightly): The Newcastle Amateur Operatic Society present "Ruddigore" (on Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday), "The Chieftain" (on Tuesday, Thursday, Friday nights and Saturday matinée), preceded by "Cox and Box." Company includes: Mr. Norman Wright, Mr. E. T. Heenan, Mr. Arthur Ridley, Mr. R. Gillender, Miss D. Lindon Travers, Mrs. Colin Veitch, Miss Marie Nicholson, Miss Gladys Rennards, Miss Sallie Friar, Mr. Wm. Catcheside, Mr. Reginald R. Luther, Mr. Stanley Ismay, Mr. T. Woodman, Mr. R. F. Nichols, Mr. R. Dodds, Mr. H. Alderson, Mr. Ernest J. Potts.

THEATRE ROYAL. — L., The Robert Arthur Theatres, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. F. Teale Lingham.—Mr. Cyril Maude's company is paying a welcome return visit in "Bunty Pulls the Strings." Mr. Edward Lynton continues in the part of Rab, and his success is emphatic. Mr. Watson Hume pleases in his original rôle of Weelum, and so does Mr. George Greig as the Beadle. On Monday night, owing to the illness of Mr. Traill, the part of Tammas Biggar was undertaken by Mr. M. Cooper, who performed very creditably. Miss Evelyn Ormonde fills the part of Bunty excellently, whilst Miss Madge Ross, Miss Elspeth Dudgeon and Miss May Moore are in their old parts.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Messrs. Alfred Butt and Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. T. Gerald Morton.—The chief attraction here this week is Anna Eva Fay, the mystic, who completely baffles her audience; Guest and Newlyn are brilliant conversationalists; Duncan and Godfrey are highly amusing in "A Coster's Courtship"; R. S. Beresford successfully presents "The Cowboy's Redemption," Miss Florence Russell filling the chief rôle in a charming fashion; "Faking the Film" is the title of another capital sketch, in which appear Freddy Rigby and Louis du Cane. Other capital turns are provided by King and Carson, comedy duo; Minnie Muir, comedienne; David Poole, ventriloquist; Cliff Berzac's comedy animal act; and Grant and Grant, in song and dance. There is also an admirable and up-to-date show of pictures.

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. Moss', Ltd.; R. D., Mr. Richard Thornton: R. M., Mr J. W. Kilgour.—Jen Latona, the popular comedienne at the piano, deservedly holds the place of honour this week, and her comedy songs, new and old, win her a hearty reception; Larola, comedian; the Four Amaranths, novelty acrobatic dancers; Barrett and Knowles, patterers; Signor Torti, tenor; Nita Crystal and G. Saville in comedy act, entitled "Early Closing Night"; Horace Hunter and company in "The Years Between"; Rhoda Paul, male impersonator; George French, comedian; and the Bioscope are also in the programme.

PALACE THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. T. W. Rowe; M., Mr. E. B. Clark.—"The Man Tempted Me" is drawing crowded houses here twice nightly. Miss Florence E. Florence's La Jolie Diable is a masterpiece of versatile acting; Miss Ada Gower as Matilda, and Miss Fay Garnet Vayne as Lillian Wynter are deserving of praise; and Mr. F. Marriott Watson, the author, scores a success as Isaac Schlonk.

PAVILION.—M., Mr. W. P. Wells. — A programme of all-round excellence includes Mr. Herbert Landeck in "The Son of a Jew"; Frank Wilson, a talented juvenile instrumentalist; David Poole, in a unique and novel ventriloquial sketch; Bessie Butt, male impersonator; J. W. Hall, comedian; the Fimans presenting "The Fire Station"; the Curtis Four, entertainers; Strength Bros., in acrobatic act; and the Bioscope.

GRAND THEATRE.—L., Messrs. Black Bros.; M., Mr. Chas. E. Linney.—The films featured here are up to their usual high standard of excellence, and acceptable variety interludes are introduced by Little Ella, a mimic of ability; the Musical McGregors, in their speciality act; and Duncan's Collies, which show careful training.

NORTHAMPTON.

NEW THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. Walter T. Simmons; R. M., Mr. Percy H. Gallagher; Mus. D., Mr. Albert Heyes.—This week (twice nightly): Sunshine and Shaddow, in funny absurdity, "Golfing"; Alice Maude, singer, in male attire; Nelly Stevens and company in "My Lady Betty"; George Grogie, character comedian; Horace Horner, upside-down dancer; Les Cyclaminas, electric cycling specialists; Little Zola, comedian; and Spiegler and his quartette of musicians, including Miss Lucille Benstead.

NORTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. Horace Lee.—This week (twice nightly): "When There's Love at Home."—Cast includes: Mr. Algernon J. Hicks, Mr. F. Thorpe Tracey, Mr. John Blake, Mr. H. Victor Smith, Mr. Lonnen Meadows, Mr. Clifford Poultney, Mr. Evan Roland, Miss Lilian Earle, Miss Cissy Bellamy, Miss Effie Macintosh, Miss Irene Thorpe Tracey.

BOROUGH THEATRE.—P. and M., Messrs. Black Bros.; R. M., Mr. Percy Gibson; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Ridsdale.—This week (twice nightly): Capt. Taylor's Troupe of Baboons, Monkeys, and Dog Actors; Birtine, in his musical act; Ardath, with his Alligators; and pictures.

NORWICH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole M., Mr. Fred Morgan.—This week: Mr. George Edwardes' company with "The Girl in the Train." The company includes: Messrs. Bay Russell, Percy Watson, F. W. Bowes, C. F. Cooke, Stafford Dickens, Griffin Campion, Cecil Moylan, Philip Cooper, Mlles. Rosa Burchell, Winnie Hall, Dagmar Darque, and Ethel Oliver. The chorus, with augmented orchestra, is under the direction of Mr. H. H. Shaw. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; M., Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—This week: The Lorch Family, in Risley act; Hungarian Trio, musical entertainers; Walter Wade, comedian; Cullen and Carthy, comedians and dancers; Violet Stockelle, vocalist; Larry Lewis, eccentric comedian; John F. Traynor and company, in "The Devil's Elbow"; and pictures. Twice nightly; matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

PRINCE OF WALES PALACE.—M., Mr. R. A. Atkinson.—This week: Gladys Greenfield, vocalist; and pictures.

NORWICH ELECTRIC THEATRE.—M., Mr. G. F. Allen.—This week: Clare and Paftor, versatile comedy entertainers; Kitty Temple, dainty vocal comedienne; pictures.

NOTTINGHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL. — L., Robert Arthur Theatres, Ltd.; Assist. M., Mr. Howard Finney; Mus. D., Mr. John Armstrong.—Merriment and enthusiasm accompanied the performance of "The Arcadians" on Monday, and Mr. Robt. Courtneidge's company had a warm reception. Mr. Dan Agar, as Simplicitas, kept the house rocking with laughter with his quaint and humorous sayings. He was ably seconded by Miss Nellie Kavanagh, whose Mrs. Smith showed genuine comedy talent. Miss Margaret Swallow made an attractive and charming Sombra, her musical numbers being treated with great care and skill. Mr. George Hestor's return to the rôle of the lugubrious jockey was very welcome, and his efforts to "cheer people up" were whimsical in the extreme. Jack Meadows has a polished representative in Mr. Nelson Hancock. Eileen Kavanagh was daintily played by Miss Nellie Taylor. A popular Bobby was seen in Mr. R. Gascoyne. Mr. Thomas A. Braidon successfully played the excitable Sir George Paddock, and Mr. Robt. Montgomery did well as the cute Harry Desmond. Mr. Fred Ives (Strephon) and Mr. Hamilton Ryan (Astrophel) were both excellent; and Miss Maudie Ray, as Chrysca danced gracefully. An animated and well-dressed chorus was capitally controlled under the direction of Mr. Frank Seddon.

GRAND THEATRE.—M., Mr. Frank Seabrook; Mus. D., Mr. Sydney Twinn.—"A Wife for a Day" is a very excellent play, and the company of Mr. W. V. Garrod, the author, are to be complimented on their presentation. The dominant figure is Arthur Smith, who contrives to work in the whole gamut of villainy. This part is played with characteristic force and subtlety by Mr. Garrod. Mr. Herbert Flanders makes an acceptable portrayer of Henry Smith, and the strenuous rôle of Anthony Denlock is successfully undertaken by Mr. Theo Balfour. Mr. Robert Hall imparts feeling and earnestness as Frank Morath, and Miss Gladys Morris reveals both strength and artistic temperament in her reading of Mona Denlock. Miss Bertha Kingston is capable and convincing in her interpretation of Millicent Smith, and excellent comedy is forthcoming from Mr. Walter Vincent (a butler), and Miss Alice Clarke (a housekeeper).

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Assist. M., Mr. Ernest Bridgen; Mus. D., Mr. W. L. Richards.—Flo Irwin presents a mirth-provoking sketch in "Mrs. Peckham's Carouse," for which she and her company receive a full quantum of applause. A large tribute of appreciation is worthily gained by Reynolds and Donegan for an exceedingly attractive and clever exhibition of decorative dancing. The Wille Bros. accomplish their equilibristic feats with a neatness and finish that call for high praise. The exuberant humour of Wilson and Waring finds its reward in responsive merriment, while the whimsical patter of Wheeler and Berkeley is highly diverting. Edward Crossland's melody makers achieve success in the dancing and musical episode, "The Burglar's Dream." The excellent singing of Ida Barr gives general pleasure, and the contributions of Harry Fields, mimic, and Andrew McManus, Irish comedian, are well received.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; A. M., Mr. Albert C. Duncan; Assist. M., Mr. Stanhope Butler; Mus. D., Mr. Charles Wright.—The popular comedian, Harry Randall, is drawing laughter and applause from all parts of the house. A unique, interesting, and expert tumbling act is submitted by Sie Tahar's Oriental Zienats, which gains generous appreciation. The dramatic playlet, "Captain Careless, V.C.," is being played with striking power by F. Rawson Buckley and a good company. The Three Leonas show wonderful finish in their acrobatic novelty item. Marguerite Ismay and Girls present a charming vocal and dancing scena. The comedy wire act of Jaap Van Laren wins favour. The Brothers Lawlor are highly amusing in their quaint oddities; and Rita Moya, comedienne, renders useful service in an all-round excellent programme.

NUNEATON.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. Leon Vint; G. M., Mr. Arthur Brogden; R. M., Mr. Chisholm Taylor.—This week: Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Millane's company in "A White Slave." The company includes: Mr. Joseph Millane, Mr. Dunlop Stewart, Mr. Fred A. Marston, Mr. Leonard S. Harrison, Mr. Victor Garnet Vayne, Mr. Villiers Stanley, Mr. Oswald Peters, Mr. A. W. Snelling, Mr. Arthur Roas, Mr. Frank Evans, Mr. James Revill, Mr. John Millar, Mr. Fred James, Mr. Ernest Dutton, Mr. Wm. Walsh, Miss Phillis Claude, Miss Constance Nedwyn, and Miss Agnes Paulton.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PICTUREDROME.—L., Mr. Leon Vint; R. M., Mr. J. J. Kelley.—This week: Maurin's Fountains; Jimmy Walsh; and pictures.

OLDHAM.

ROYAL.—P., Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. Platt; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. J. Hulme; S., Mr. A. S. Mayall.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. G. N. Ballanger presents "The Round Up." Cast includes: J. P. McBride, Dennis Bryan, Charles Levey, Alfred Grenville, Frank Harrison, Alfred Lafolle, F. Holyoake, G. Halsten, A. Herdsfield, Will Lindoe, S. Morris, Alfred Lovell, T. Leslie, H. W. Hall, G. Kickgate, H. Stanley, W. Heaton, F. Clough, B. Elmsall, Edgar Neville, Lewis Block, F. B. Kelly, Mercia Russell, Edith Giddens, Nora Kingsley, Rita Tomkins, T. M., Mr. G. E. Carleton. Next week: "The Midnight Mail."

PALACE. — P., Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. Platt; Licensee and M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. E. Sharness.—This week (twice nightly): Jock Kelly, assisted by Violet Kelly; Freda Danilo, male impersonator; Will Beanland, in "The ballroom by the sea"; Flying Winskills, gymnasts; the Schmettans, equilibriste; Bros. Bernhart; Will Driscoll; H. M. Vernon's Co., in "Canada"; and pictures.

COLOSSEUM.—P., The Dobie Electric Theatres, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Wm. Dobie; Lecturer, Mr. H. Young.—This week (twice nightly): Lieut. Chard's canine wonders; the Henry Whiteley Trio; Sisters Gaye, in song and dance; Fame and Fortune, comedians; and pictures.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—P., The Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. C. Gaston.—This week (twice nightly): Charles Gaston, in illustrated song-scena; and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—P., The Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. F. Dixon.—This week (twice nightly): Fred Dixon, comedian; and pictures.

POPULAR HALL.—M., Mr. J. W. Schofield.—This week: Phil Rabey, descriptive vocalist; and pictures.

PENTRE.

GRAND THEATRE.—P. & M., Mr. James Gunn.—This week (twice nightly): The Dayton Family in "Le Rendezvous"; Three Spanish Armadas, tight-rope performers; Louise Dott, vocalist and sand dancer; Dora Campbell, soprano vocalist; and pictures. Matinée, Tuesday at 10.30 a.m. Next week: "Royal Divorce."

WORKMEN'S HALL.—M., Mr. H. Salway; Mus. D., Mr. Joe Leslie.—This week (twice nightly): Yacob, performing ourang-outang; Pickard and West, gymnastic and comedy act; Three Sisters Sprightly; and pictures. Matinée, Wednesday, at 10.30 a.m.

PENZANCE.

PICTUREDROME.—R. M., Mr. Dick Trembath.—This week: Nina Reynolds, male impersonator; and pictures.

PERTH.

PERTH THEATRE.—P. M., Mr. J. H. Savile.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George Edwardes' company in "The Count of Luxembourg." The company includes: R. Roberts, M. Lester, E. Oxlee, D. Walker, L. Mills, E. Norris, N. Brown, A. Traile, A. Johnstone, E. Wellesley, R. Graham, N. Barrie, Miss M. Jarvis, L. Hicks, A. Hilliard, M. Vernon, M. Edgley, J. Crammond, N. Mortimer, E. Hertz, H. Gresham, R. Weekley, M. June, G. Anderton, and Miss M. Twemlow. Next week: Mr. Charles Austin's company in "The Exploits of Parker, P.C."

PETERBOROUGH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Lieut.-Col. J. A. Winstanley; A. M., Mr. A. Lake-Fry.—This week: Mr. Brandon Thomas's company in "Charley's Aunt." The company includes: Messrs. T. McCausland Stewart, James Page, Lawrence Anderson, F. T. Cooper, Charles Windermere, Sydney Compton, and the Misses Ada Ferrar, Florence Saunders, Vera Cornish, and Pauline Hugen.

HIPPODROME.—L., Messrs. Hawkins and Frank; M., Mr. Fred Hawkins.—This week: Venturini, illusionist, in "The Bridal Chamber"; Queenie West, comedienne and dancer; the Florence Sisters, in dancing scena; Harry Whitwark, comedian and parody singer; Fred Challis, comedian; and the Dunvilles, introducing musical instruments, singing, and dancing.

PLYMOUTH.

GRAND THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—Twice nightly: Miss Loie Esmonds' company in "The Sorrows of Satan" and "Nana." Mr. Edward Neville, Mr. Sidney Andrews, Mr. Harold Duncan, Mr. Oscar Wyatt, Mr. A. Jarvis, Mr. Jack Grimes, Mr. H. Flint, Mr. J. Wilkes, Mr. J. Le Fleming, Mr. Medcalfe, Mr. N. Ferry, Miss Mary Kinloch, Miss Loie Esmond, Miss Cecily Byrne, Miss Marie Clive, Miss Rosie Neville-Banwell. Next week: "The 10.30 Down Express."

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—L., Mr. Walter De Frece; M., Mr. G. F. Thompson.—This week: The Mysterious Lady in Red; Gertie Rex, dainty character comedienne; Thornbury, novelty entertainer; Alix Lukos, vocalist; Percy Hayden, in rag-time at the piano; Melt and Bray, eccentrics; Reno, cycle expert; and the Harmony Four, including J. C. Bergeron, Ed. Hughes, F. M. Darrelt, and A. Cozens.

PONTEFRACT.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—L., Geo. Tankard.—This week (once nightly): Chas. Harrington presents "Uncle Tom's Cabin." The company includes: Mr. John Boehm, Mr. Raymond Wallace, Mr. Bertram Howard, Mr. Percival Young, Mr. John Gibson, Mr. Edward Leroy, Mr. H. Jenkins, Mr. W. Eversleigh, Mr. A. Ashton Roe, Mr. Edie Roberts, Mr. Jack Black, Mr. A. Lewis, Mr. J. Lewis, Mr. J. Martin, Mr. J. Newton, Miss Maud Lynmore, Miss Florence Tyler, Miss Blanch Leroy, Miss May Turner, Miss Annie Watson, Miss L. Allen, Miss Mabel Bowman, Miss Ethel Masterman, Miss Hero Hathaway. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

PONTYPRIDD.

NEW THEATRE.—P., Messrs. Trenchard and Jones; M., Mr. Charles Trenchard; A. M., Mr. William Trenchard.—This week: Estelle Collette, assisted by Mr. John Mercer; Little Sunbeam; and the Lightning Vinettos.

LARGE TOWN HALL.—P., Mr. John G. Wood; R. M., Mr. Mason.—This week: Miss Amy Morgan, vocalist; and pictures.

WHITE PALACE.—P., The White Palaces, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Albert R. Josty.—This week: Mr. Tom Phillips, vocalist; and pictures.

PORTSMOUTH.

ROYAL.—Licensee & M., Mr. J. W. Boughton; A. M., Mr. Arthur A. Horner.—"A Butterfly on the Wheel," presented by Mr. Arthur Hardy's chief company is interesting patrons here this week; the Divorce Court scene is realistically illustrated. Peggy, the flirty heroine, is artistically played by Miss Frances Titheradge, and some fine acting is exhibited by Mr. T. A. Shannon as Roderick Collingwood, the co-respondent; Mr. G. Powis Griffith, as the Right Hon. George Admaston, M.P., Mr. Douglas Greet as Lord Ellerdine, Mr. Herbert Greville as Sir Robt. Fyffe, and Mr. Norman Leslie as Mr. Gervan MacArthur, Lady Atwill had a capable representative in Miss Daisy Cordell, and Pauline is successfully impersonated by Miss Violet Greville.

KING'S.—Licensee and M., Mr. J. W. Boughton; A. M., Mr. Arthur R. Hollands.—Princess D'Aryaba, in her beautiful dancing scena, "La Sylphe," introducing her young companion, La Zapa, also an accomplished dancer, has been a chief attraction this week in the comedy sketch, "Other People's Money"; Mr. Gerald Griffin as Hutchinson Hopper is distinctly successful. The Three Ernests perform some wonderful trampoline business. Harry Levaine, "the lady in white," provokes much laughter. The Raymond Trio presented a refined musical and dancing act. Others winning approval are Billy Curzon, Stephens Rennior, Mary May, and Jim Mac.

PRINCES.—Licensee & M., Mr. J. W. Boughton.—The popular detective drama, "Sexton Blake," has never before been more appreciated in Portsmouth than at the above this week. The company is a most capable one. Mr. Fred C. Bailey is one of the best detective actors who have been seen in the provinces lately.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. Geo. Harris.—The American Rag-time Octette come in for continued applause; flute, 'cello and piano has three talented executants in the Hesseys; the Pines are lady comediennes above the average; the juggling jesters, Radford and Valentine, are very amusing; Fitz-Allen illustrates his songs in a novel manner; the topsy-turvy pianist, Geo. Ross, scores a success; Ess and Hoey dance with skates, etc.; the little "Pavlova," Felice Fovar, is a graceful young dancer; and some capital pictures conclude.

EMPIRE.—M. D., Capt. E. H. Warren-Wright; S., Mr. W. Pratt.—A powerful sketch, by Messrs. H. J. Corner and Leo Ward, entitled "1,000 to 1 Against," is greatly enjoyed; Magini, tramp violinist, is a tremendous success; Fred Land, the popular eccentric comedian, created much mirth. Other excellent turns are those of Omo and Oma, in clever wire walking; the Two Agousts; the Sylvester Trio, in song and dance; Gorden Stretten; and Dess Dessborough.

CLARENCE PIER.—M. & S., Mr. W. Cuddy.—Montague's Mountebanks are visiting here for the first time this week, and elicited considerable applause, the artistes being Misses Betsy Bates, Ethel Gordon, Frank Martin, Leonard Henry, Harry Ruming, and Albert Lynn (pianist and accompanist). Monday night's entertainment was preceded by a concert by the string band of k. G. Hurder and Mr. Chas. Lee.

SOUTH PARADE PIER.—M. for the Corporation, Mr. F. G. Robson.—Mr. Philip Ritte's pure tenor voice delighted patrons here at Sunday's concerts, the string band of H.M.S. Excellent, under Mr. A. V. Sparrow, supplying the orchestral portion. During the week the Comedies have been the entertainers, the talented troupe including Miss Vivian Franklin, Alice Waldie, May O'Connel, Doris Dainton, John Marzicani, Ray Allan, and Roxburghe-Keely.

PRESTON.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. Frank E. Burdett; Mus. D., Mr. Robert Peel.—This

ROYAL PAVILION.—Sole P., Mr. Albert Wilkinson.—This week: The Milton Mora Trio, triple bar performers and acrobats; and Chummie La Mara, comedienne.

READING.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE. — P. and M., Messrs. Bode and Compton.—This week (once nightly): Gore Ouseley's company, in "The Cingalee." T. M., E. P. Morgan. The company includes: Teddie Staples, Sam Lockridge, Carl Beechey, J. Howitt, Stanley Liston, Geo. Mudie, jun., Frank Bevan, Herbert Uzielli, E. A'Mandi, W. A. Reid, Amus Abdulla, Rhua By, Daisy Lake, Hebe Bliss, Nancy Hanton, Queenie Lang, Violet Rees, Dora Courtenay, Eileen Brereton, Maisie May, Frances Northmore, Kitty Holmes, Cassie Langley, Nancy Townsend, Dorothy Gibbons, Nanetta Chilcotte, Gracie Austin, Mabel Ross. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.30. Next week: Mr. Fred Karno's Company.

PALACE THEATRE.—P., The Reading Palace Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. J. H. Hyslop; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Leake.—This week (twice nightly): Chas. Baron, with his burlesque menagerie; Harry Friskey, comedy juggler; Phil and Phlora, acrobatic duo; Barrington, Dane and Dickens, in music, song and dance; C. H. Charlton, conjurer; Florence Esdaile, vocalist; Hart and Edie, in vocal Dutch scena; Guy and Grahame; and pictures.

ROCHDALE.

THEATRE ROYAL. — P., The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Norman Robinson. —This week (once nightly): Mr. Max Allen's company in "Hindle Wakes." T. M., Mr. E. T. Heys. The company includes: Mr. Norman Clark, Miss Cecile E. Anson. Miss Helena Walbran, Mr. Ernest E. Imeson, Miss Kate Osborne, Mr. Colston Mansell, Mr. John Cecil. Miss Madge Trenchard. Miss Margaret Beck. Next week: "Diana of Dobson's."

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—P., The Jackson Family; M., Mr. Jas. Jackson, senr.—This week: Marvello, conjuror; Sterling and Love, in vocal and instrumental comedy act; Edith Chantler, vocalist; Three Haytors, in sketch, "The Electrician"; Keen and Walker, acrobatic comedians; John Paley, trumpet and cornet soloist; Joe Peterman presents James Learmouth and Co. in "The Station Master"; pictures.

PALACE THEATRE.—S. L., The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. W. Robinson; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; R. M., Mr. Norman M. Robinson.—Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, "East Lynne." The company includes: Mr. George Gordon, Mr. Graham Roberts, Mr. G. Desmond, Mr. Roy Rhind, Mr. Billie Owen, Mr. H. Buckley, Miss J. Howard, Miss L. Palmer, Miss K. Cranston, Miss N. Ingram, Miss Glad Thorpe Miss M. Lewis, Miss Florrie Booth, and Miss Grace Warner. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, "The Wages of Sin."

PRINGLE'S EMPIRE.—S. L., Pringle's Picture Palaces, Ltd.; G. M. D., Mr. Ralph Pringle; R. M., Mr. Jas. Pringle.—This week: The Lizzette Trio, acrobatic act; the Five Greenlees, in "On a Holiday"; Seven Rosiques, dancing girls; and pictures.

ROTHERHAM.

ROYAL.—P., North of England Theatres, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; R. M., Mr. John Dunbar; Mus. D., Mr. A. C. Harrison. — This week: Mr. Arthur Hinton and Miss Leila Zillwood's company in "Allah's Orchard." The company includes: Mr. Arthur Hinton, Miss Florence Zillwood, Mr. Frank McLennan, Mr. Mark Adams, Mr. Arthur Keand, Mr. David Phillips, Miss Marie Royale, and Miss Phylliss Grosvenor.

HIPPODROME.—P., The Rotherham Hippodrome, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. George E. Smith; G. M., Mr. Claude Shayler; R. M., Mr. William Pearson; Mus. D., Mr. J. Millar.—This week: Frank F. Street and company in "The Cattle Thief": Will Van Allen, tramp musical comedian; Stewart and Morgan, in Scotch melodies; W. B. Raby; the Four Rays; Ivy Bartenelli; the Vedras; and Milner and Storey.

RUNCORN.

PALACE, LTD.—Sole Licensee and M. D., Mr. A. Smith; A. M., Mr. Douglas L. Watson. — This week (twice nightly): Eight Rag-time Darkies; Two Vestas, vocalists and simultaneous dancers; the Manningoes, equilibrists; Fred Hallam, comedian; and pictures.

PUBLIC HALL. — L., Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—This week (twice nightly): Max Erard's company in "Shepherdland"; Barlow and Brookes, tenor and comedian; Harry Shaw, comedian; Scamp and Scamp, bar performers; and pictures.

RUSHDEN.

THE PALACE.—G. M., Mr. W. F. J. Hewitt; R. M., Mr. A. W. Thompson; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Adams.—This week (twice nightly): On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, "The Great Detective." The company includes: Alf Gosnell, Alex. Walters, Frank Emptage, Albert Carlton, A. W. Jones, Miss Georgie Steed, Miss Minna Greene, Carlotta de Yonson, C. Douglas Carlile, Lee Gilbert, Chas. A. Carlile, Herbert Danville, Gerald Blake, Arthur Snowden, Jed Gerald, Walter Brothers. On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, the Steingos, Bulgarian performers; Ada Gatley, equilibrist; Nelson Hardy, character ventriloquist. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

SALFORD.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.—P. & M., Mr. E. B. Goulden.—This week (once nightly, and Wednesday matinée, 2.30): Arthur Hinton and Leila Zillwood's company in "King of the Gipsies." Cast includes: Sydney Bland, S. Leigh Courteney, Berkley Hawthorn, Bertram Thomas, Albert Grenville, Jack Fisher, George Inglis, E. A. Peake, Cyril Jarvis, William Hughes, John Rudd, Nina Hardinge, May B. Douglas, Violette Vivienne, Josephine Richards.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—M. D., Mr. W. Turner; G. M., Mr. Alan D. Dunbar; Mus. D., Mr. Sydney L. Hampton.—This week (twice nightly): D'Arc's Marionettes; Lillie Langtry, the electric spark; Lily Hill, the Lancashire nightingale; the Lannons, duettists and dancers; Millie Doris, eccentric comedienne: Albert Letine, variety entertainer and female impersonator; and Alf. Raffin's Acrobatic Performing Monkeys, presented by Mlle. Lavina. Matinée, Tuesday, 2.30.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. Henry Hearn.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Francis Laidler presents "The Pride of Byzantia." The company includes: J. P. Marsden, Reg. Matthews, Will Lindsay, James Chippendale, Cliff Ilman, Lucy Murray, Madge Soutter, Jessie Stern, Little Elsie Pennell, Little Mary O'Hara, Edith Coles, Ralph Morton, Alfred Clifton, Dorothy Vere. T. M., Mr. Wallace Stranack. Matinée, Tuesday, at 2.30.

OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. W. Turner; G. M., Mr. Alan D. Dunbar. — This week (twice nightly, and matinées Monday, Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.30): Mr. Tom Sherlock, vocalist, in illustrated songs; and pictures.

KING'S ELECTRIC THEATRE.—P., The United Electric Theatres (London), Ltd.; M., Mr. Joe Bardsley.—Twice nightly, and matinées Monday, Wednesday and Saturday at 2.30: Miss A. Marchsa, soprano vocalist; and pictures.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.

ROYAL.—P., Mr. A. C. Harrison: M., Mr. Wallace Child.—This week: Mr. Percy Bown and company in "The Grip of Iron." Second week of stock season.

EMPIRE.—This week: Ted Baylis, comedian; Russell Vaughan's Troupe, the Oxford Sixette, in rag-time comedy act.

CO-OPERATIVE HALL.—L., Mr. C. Wilkinson; M., Mr. Joe Andy.—This week: The Three Orcomas, rag-time singers and dnacers.

SHEFFIELD.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. John Hart; G. M. and T., Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—There was a large and representative audience at the premier theatre of Steelopolis on Monday, when Mr. George Edwardes's strong company appeared for the first time here in the Daly's Theatre success, "Gipsy Love." The piece was brilliantly mounted, and the exquisite dresses and artistic scenery obtained enthusiastic recognition. Mr. Leonard Mackay made a perfect Bohemian lover as Jozsi, and his handsome appearance, his romantic bearing, and his expressive singing added considerably to the popular position he holds with local lovers of comic opera. The part of Lady Bobby was represented in a graceful manner by Miss Avice Kelham, and nothing could be more charming and piquant than Miss Blanche Tomlin's Ilamo. Mr. Lauri de Frece is a great favourite with Lyceum audiences, and he kept the house in ripples of merriment as the Roumanian noble Dragotin. The characters of Jolan, Julessa, Zerika, and Marischka were delightfully represented by Miss Daisy Burrell, Miss Grace Wixon, Miss Evelyn Harding, and Miss Berenice Maxwell. Other parts were cleverly played by Mr. Ian Colquhoun as Andor, Mr. Walter Adams as Jonel, Mr. W. Spray as Kajetan, Mr. R. A. Swinhoe as Dimitreanu, Mr. K. Henderson as Rudolph, and Mr. F. Ricardo as Rollo. Graceful dances were introduced by Miss Florence Arnold and Mons. Kawecki, who were loudly applauded. There was a large and well-balanced chorus, and the augmented band had a share in the general success. Next week, "The Arcadians."

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. John Hart; G. M. and T., Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Asst. M., Mr. M. Mahonay.—Mr. C. Watson Mill's new drama, "Mid Pleasures and Palaces," was played to an appreciative audience on Monday by the author's talented company. The characters were well sustained by Mr. Edward Ashley, Mr. Charles De Pitt, Mr. Horace Whitmee, Mr. W. P. Acock, Mr. Edw. E. Louis, Mr. R. Oliver, Mr. D. L. Doyle, Mr. G. Buckley, Mr. H. Presoner, Miss Myra Eyton, Miss Ethel Dobbs, Miss Edith Gregory, and Miss Joan Ellis. Next week, "The Prisoner of Zenda."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. W. D. Forsdike; A. M. & T., Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—A large and enthusiastic audience welcomed the return visit of Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company in "The Prairie Outlaw," by Mrs. Kimberley. The scenery and effects are first-rate, and the characters are well sustained by Mr. J. C. Carlyle, Mr. Ernest Vaughan, Mr. Gerald Sherley, Mr. J. Crowace, Mr. J. Russell Bogue, Mr. J. Kay, Mr. Fred Mewburn, Flowing Elk, Great Star, Mr. R. Gilroy, Mr. F. Wallace, Miss Nellie Wood, and Miss Madge Douglas. Next week, "The Collier's Lass."

EMPIRE PALACE.—P., The Moss Empires Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. L. M. Stewart.—Mr. Eugene Stratton, who stands supreme in his special line of business, heads the bill this week, and appears in his new speciality, "Uncle Jasper." The programme also includes Miss Marie Santoi and company in "A Night in Japan"; Mr. J. H. Scotland, basso; Miss Madge Clifton, comedienne; Miss May Erne, musical artiste, assisted by Ernie Chester, vocalist; Mr. Fred Hastings, vocal comedian; Green and Wood, comedy acrobats; pictures, and Mr. Austen Temple's conjuring mysteries. Mus. D., Mr. Arthur Grimmett.

HIPPODROME.—P., The Sheffield Hippo. Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Frank Poole.—The re-entree of the Moore and Burgess Minstrels is a great success, and the entertainment, divided into three parts, gives genuine pleasure, some of the ballads being enthusiastically encored. The sixty performers, backed by an elaborate mise-en-scène, make a striking ensemble in the first part. Engaged this week are also the Werner Amoros troupe of pantomimists and jugglers; Miss Beatrice Allen, comedienne; Blake and Granby, in a comedy sketch; Mr. Eddie Lawler, comedian; and Alfredo, the "Vagabond Musician." Mus. D., Mr. J. G. Hahn.

NEW CENTRAL HALL.—G. M., Mr. Fred W. Holmes.—On account of its great success, Sardou's great play, "Cléopatre," as acted by Miss Helen Gardner and company, is retained for another week.

BOSTOCK JUNGLE.—P. M., Mr. Harry Tudor. —Menagerie performances on the arenic stage; all-nation trainers and the great Fun-fair at 2 and 7.

SMETHWICK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole P., Mr. Chas. Barnard; M., Mr. James Chapman; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Hickling.—This week (once nightly): Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Benge present "The Cowboy's Revenge." T. M., Mr. Lauri Moynahan. The company includes: Mr. Wilson Benge, Mr. Harry Vayne, Mr. Charles T. Higgins, Mr. Austin Dean, Mr. Frank Cavanagh, Mr. Lauri Moynahan, Mr. Bob Linton, Mr. Frank Masters, Mr. F. J. Lawson, Mr. Bert Denton, Mr. S. T. Wilson, Mr. P. J. Tomkins, Mr. Ralf Hillier, Mr. H. J. Sanderson, Mr. Karl Peters, Mr. Seth Thomas, Mr. Tim Preston, Ska Wapka, Foy Cafinch, Amos Halma, Miss Maud Hastings, Miss Nellie Hazel, Miss Sadie Smith. Specialities by Vayne and Hazel, in rag-time successes; Frank Masters, in comedy and eccentric dancing; and Frank and Lauri, in American comedy, &c. Next week: "Only a Mill Girl."

EMPIRE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. B. Kennedy; S., Mr. W. H. Adams; A. M., Mr. A. G. Guest.—This week: W. Selkirk's Scottish spectacle, "The Clans of Bonnie Scotland," performed by fifty local children; Sisters Beaumont, duettists; the Dancing Durhams; Jimmy Goode, comedian; Freda Hardene and W. Worth Mosford, entertainers; and pictures.

BEARWOOD COLISEUM.—P., Smethwick Empire, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. B. Kennedy; S., Mr. W. H. Adams; A. M., Mr. H. Kennedy.—This week: The Two Wards (Fred, comedian, and Cecilia, the little lady with the big boots); Hal Bryan, comedian; the Albano Girls; and pictures.

SOUTHAMPTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—R. M., Mr. Arthur Weston; Mus. D., Mr. J. Warwick Moore.—This week: Mr. George Edwardes' principal repertoire company are presenting "The Dollar Princess" and "The Merry Widow" with the greatest success. The company, which is a capital one, includes: The Misses Effie Mann, Freda Large, Lucie Donati, Kathleen Storr, Marie Kappey, Maie Jackson, Ivy Durn, Hilda Laine, Florence Ivy, and Ada Thomas, Messrs. Fred Maguire, William Allison, Haydn Scott, Ernest Chimpson, Clifford Seyler, Ripley Evans, Clifton Hamilton, Tom Redmond, and H. Sinclair Cotter. Mus. D., Mr. Harry Burton; G. M. of company, Mr. Gifford Stacey.

PALACE.—R. M., Mr. W. Murray; A. M., Mr. Fred Mason; Mus. D., Mr. J. Wilde.—Harry M. Vernon presents a novel sketch, "Don't You Believe It"; Maie Ash and Fred Allendale score in "The Soldier and the Girl"; Carlisle and Wellmon are seen and heard to great advantage in "The Girls are Waiting"; others who entertain are: The Du Cros Trio; Lillie Soutter, comedienne; Walter Conrad, baritone; and Les Donlos, contortionists.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Walter de Frece; R. M., Mr. Harry Yardley.—Hedges Bros. and Jacobsen excel as rag-time entertainers; The Selbinis are smart cyclists; and Fred Russell, ventriloquist; Bell and Butt, comedians; Clara Coverdale and her 9 dainty dots; Bi-Bo-Bi, bells; Arthur Leslie comedian and mimic; the Milsted-Bell Trio in musical farce, "Three Sharps in a Flat," complete the fine programme.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. B. Pareezer; R. M., Mr. Julian Graham.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Alban Limpus and Miss Cecile Barclay present "The Turning Point." The company includes: Rupert Lister, Herbert Rea, Charles Fancourt, F. Owen Chambers, George Barran, Campbell Beaver, A. Mayne, Alec Street, Geoffrey May, Alfred Manners, A. Wingood, Mary Forrester, Maud Garth, A. Vansittart, Cecile Barclay. T. M., Mr. Alban B. Limpus. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30. Next week: "The Merry Widow."

SOUTHPORT.

OPERA HOUSE.—L. and M., Mr. Percy Hutchison; B. M., Mr. G. Clarkson—This week (once nightly): Mr. R. Burnett presents "The Bear Leaders." Cast includes: Mr. Ian O. Will, Mr. Sidney Butt, Mr. George Goodwin, Mr. Allan Harris, Mr. Charles Barber, Mr. Robertson Hare, Mr. Paul Smythe, Mr. J. Mitchell, Mr. Robert Burnett, Miss Ethel Russell, Miss Janet Gillette, Miss Frances White, Miss Ethel Russell, Miss Rene Vivian, Miss Mary Burnham, Miss Ormonde Wynne.

PIER PAVILION.—L., Mr. Frank Macnaghten; M., Mr. Eric Longden.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Chas. Bell in "The Photographer"; the Oakes Duo, in "Woman's Rights"; John and Lillian, vocalists and character actors, in "At Home and Abroad"; Albert Le Fre, comedian; Lily Cole, burlesque artiste; Smarte Bros., acrobatic eccentrics; Robb Wilton, confidential comedian; and pictures.

SOUTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. John Coulson; S., Miss F. Black; Mus. D., Mr. Jos. Hopper. This week: "Queen of the Redskins." The company includes: Mr. Jerrold Heather, Mr. Ellis Leigh, Mr. T. R. Nugent, Mr. Frank Litchfield, Mr. Edward Maples, Mr. Lionel Moore, Mr. Sam Edwards, Mr. Arthur C. Russell, Miss Clara Oakes, Miss Christine Murray, Miss Jessie Campbell, Miss Amy Maitland, and Miss Hilda Shirley. Next week: "The Speckled Band."

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—M. D., Mr. Richard Thornton; G. M., Mr. Frank Allen; R. M., Mr. Edwin Winter; Mus. D., Mr. Jos. Campbell.—This week: Lowenwirth and Cohan, Hebrew comedians; Charburn's Young Stars in vocal scena, "A Picnic Up the River"; Les Napiers, in a dancing, gymnastic and juggling act; Ray Wallace, music at the piano; Dick Tubb, comedian; Robbins and Collier Trio in sketch, "Miss Bacon's Easter Egg"; Jessie Buckle, comedienne; and the Bioscope.

GRAND ELECTRIC THEATRE.—M., Mr. Jas. W. Bainton.—This week: Six Drummer Girls, in harmony, dancing and comedy; Tom E. Johnstone, singer of chorus songs; and pictures.

PALACE ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Lecturer, Mr. Wilfred Bryant; Asst. M., Mr. Richard H. Taylor; Mus. D., Mr. Harry Verd.—This week: "The Moto Girl"; Kenneth and Kane, comedians; and pictures.

KING'S PICTURES (TEMPERANCE HALL). —M., Mr. Morris Geo. Elsy.—This week: The Gem Sextette, in song, harmony and dance; and pictures.

STAFFORD.

PLAYHOUSE.—L. and M., Mrs. Evelyn Thomas. —This week: Mr. Geo. A. Street's company in "The Cattle Thief." Company includes: Messrs. Cheyenne Bill, Will Batt, Harry Leslie, Richard Altree, Eric Gordon, Albert Paine, J. Ashworth, J. Copeland, J. Wehl, W. Hilton, W. Henry, W. Hicks, S. Turner, Misses Ethel Wynne Matthews, Mabel Norrie, Dora Marriott, Nellie Statham, and Cynthia Thomas. Next week: "A Wife for a Day," and "The Rag-time Girl."

STANLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., The Stanley Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Mark H. Lindon; Mus. D., Mr. J. F. Macdonald—This week (once nightly): Bennett and Meden's company in "The Chauffeur and the Cabby"; A. W. Pearson, in "The Curse"; The Wedburns, comedians; the Two De Traffords, versatile artistes; Gert and Nina, in harmony Three Sisters Godfrey, acrobatic dancers; Madge and Alexandra, in their latest successes; Winona and King, trapeze artistes; and pictures.

THE VIC.—P., Mr. T. C. Rawes.—This week (twice nightly): Roma and Romani, musicians; May Turnbull, juvenile; Bros. Leotard, comical clowns; and pictures.

ELITE PICTURE PALACE.—This week (twice nightly): Stewart and Morris, comedians; the Delroys, Negro specialities; Anita Correze, mezzo soprano; and pictures.

ST. HELENS.

THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—P., St. Helens Theatre, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. McLeod Loader; A. M., Mr. Harry E. Johnson.—This week: Leonard and French's company in "The Girl of My Heart." The cast includes: Mr. Herbert Leonard, Mr. Jack Haddon, Mr. E. Claxton Turner, Mr. Arthur E. Maskell, Mr. A. Pringle, Mr. E. Curtis, Miss Marie Rayner, Miss Laura Dyson, and Miss G. H. Walton.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Wilmot; A. M., Mr. Leo Weisker.—This week: Six Brothers Luck in "Walton Jail" and "H.M.S. Perhaps"; Jack and Will, equilibrists; Alf Warner, violinist; Renee Graham, comedienne; Syd Bandon, comedian; Li Chang Hi, magician; and the Three Osrams.

STOCKPORT.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner & M., Mr. Chas. Revill; A. M., Mr. Wm. Revill.—This week (twice nightly): Miss Winifred Maude's company, in "The Mormon and the Maid." The cast includes: Mr. Arthur L. Read, Mr. Albert E. Bannister, Mr. Will White, Mr. Victor du Cane, Mr. Arthur Lenton, Mr. George Ross, Miss Greta Drury, Miss Lilla Morden, Miss Gipsy Alexander, and Miss Winifred Maude.

STOCKTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Mr. John Batty; M., Mr. Walter Batty.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson, jun., presents "A Queen for a Wife." The company includes: Mr. E. A. Hill-Mitchelson, jun., Mr. Ernest Fosbrooke, Mr. Warwick Wellington, Mr. Michael Adams, Mr. Walter E. Dresden, Mr. Cowell Clarke, Mr. Henry Armitage, Mr. Bob Cromwell, Mr. Edward Cramon, Mr. W. Carpenter, Mr. H. Toms, Miss Florence French, Miss Rosie Russell, Mrs. Bennett, Miss Alice Belmore. T. M., Mr. Walter E. Dresden.

HIPPODROME. — L. and G. M., Mr. Harry Burns; R. M., Mr. Geo. V. Stainton.—This week (twice nightly): W. Paskin's Eight Frolics; Four Musical Gardiners; Mark Stuart, comedian; Will H. Kuming and a piano; Will Last, comedian; the Edwards, vocalists; Three Bros. Huxter, humorists; pictures.

STOURBRIDGE.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. Douglas C. Phelps.—This week: Mr. Arthur Hinton and Miss Leila Zillwood's company present "A Clever Impostor." The company includes: Mr. Herbert Evelyn, Mr. Walace Black, Mr. Ernest H. Clarke, Mr. Eric Dane, Mr. Arthur Rodney, Miss Ethel Norrie, Miss Marjorie Seymour, Mr. Alfred Richards, Mr. C. Kilbourne, Mr. William Waring, Mr. James Turnbull, Mr. Thomas Fielding, Miss Lillie Carter-Livesey, and Miss Emma Litchfield.

KING'S HALL.—P., Messrs. Poole's Theatres, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. C. W. Poole; M., Mr. H. J. Wharton.—This week: Pictures only.

SUNDERLAND.

KING'S THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. S. F. Davidson; G. M., Mr. Lloyd Townrow; T., Mr. L. Crawford Orr.—The Joseph O'Mara Grand Opera Company are playing here this week in répertoire, and on Monday night the house was crowded, the company receiving a tremendous ovation. The opera chosen was Wagner's "Tannhäuser," when Mr. William Boland filled the title-rôle in masterly style. He was keenly alive to the changing moods of the character, and his vocal portrayal of effective feelings was a triumph. Miss Edith Evans' enactment of Elizabeth was deserving of the highest eulogy. Her notes were extremely clear, and her control absolutely perfect. Mr. Alex. Tait-Knight as Wolfram delighted everyone with his particularly clear voice and his general style; Mr. Kingsley Lark was heard to advantage as Landgrave. Miss Kathleen McCully sang the music falling to the share of Venus with telling effect, and Miss Mary Locke was particularly sweet as the Shepherd Boy. Others doing valuable service were Messrs. Gerard Nichols (Walther), Henry O'Dempsey (Schrieber), William Russell (Reinmar), and Jay Ryan (Biterolf). The chorus was extremely high in quality, and the orchestra did splendid work under the able baton of Mr. Harrison Frewin. On Tuesday night "Carmen" was played with Mr. Joseph O'Mara as Don Jose, and throughout the week the company are doing "La Traviata," "Il Trovatore," "The Huguenots," "The Bohemian Girl," and "Faust."

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. Richard Thornton.—Mr. Fred Granville's company is playing here this week in the drama "At the Mercy of the Mormons," before crowded houses. Miss Nazel Dent gives a meritorious rendering of Lucy Harris. Mr. Pat Sullivan submits a clever performance as Ruddy Roger. Mr. Edwin Davies is seen in a capital study as Mexican Jake. Miss Geraldine Verner is splendid as Ruth Marlow. Mr. James Kendal takes the heavy part of Ezra Highbee in able manner, and the comedy is skilfully handled by Miss Alice Maud (Stumpy Liz) and Mr. John Leahair (Slim Jim).

EMPIRE THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. Richard Thornton; G. M., Mr. Harry Esden.—The Ragtime Six are heading a capital bill here this week, and they are extremely popular with their numbers, which are most up to date and cleverly rendered. Ferry Corwey, "the musical clown," provides a humorous turn which also includes some good instrumental work. Silbon's Cats are responsible for a remarkable entertainment, which gives evidence of much careful training. Billy French is warmly applauded in song and dance; Solo causes roars of laughter with his absurdity "A Lesson in Temperance"; Lily Morris, comedienne; Leo Tell, in mimicry; and Tom and Neil in "Hits and Bumps," also do highly commendable work on their own lines.

AVENUE THEATRE.—P., Mr. Richard Thornton; B. M., Mr. J. Clement Padden.—Mlle. Louis and Bruno Pitrot are making a great hit here with their novel speciality, the Mobil Bar; Newman and Royle are also highly popular in their original ventriloquial act, "The Widow."

PALACE THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. A. G. Hamilton.—The Baldo Bros. are causing roars of laughter with their humorous item "The Eccentric Motor-bus Men." Sinclair's Three Bluebells do some pleasing work in song and dance, and Messrs. C. W. and J. R. Poole's "Loss of the Titanic" is being shown on the screen.

SWANSEA.

GRAND THEATRE.—Sole P., Messrs. David Allen and Sons, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. T. Byrne; Mus. D., Mr. W. F. Hulley.—This week (once nightly and Saturday matinée, 2.30): Louis Meyer presents "The Glad Eye." Cast includes: Mr. T. G. Vane, Mr. Alfred Drayton, Mr. Frank Bradley, Mr. Robert S. Entwistle, Mr. Leslie Kyle, Mr. J. Courtney Fagan, Mr. Stanley Groome, Mr. H. W. Hewlett, Mr. H. Conyers, Miss Monica Marshall, Miss Lilian Christine, Miss Phyllis Stuckey, Miss Mona Meyer. Preceded by the Vaudeville Tatlers. Next week: "The Pink Lady."

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. William Coutts; G. M., Mr. Hal Cummings; A. M., Mr. Chas. McNamara.—This week (Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday): Miss Mabel Mannering in "The Liars." Thursday, Friday, and Saturday: "Mrs. Dane's Defence," preceded by "Muddle Annie." Company includes: Mr. Miller Anderson, Mr. Edmund Sydney, Mr. V. Crabtree, Mr. Manning Sproston, Mr. Alfred Wiltshire, Mr. Chas. R. Stone, Mr. Wilfred Keriston, Mr. L. Parsons, Mr. Walter Long, Mr. Harry Davies, Miss Mabel Mannering, Miss Doris Laine, Miss Marion Broughton, Miss Kathleen Mortimer, Miss Laura Hansen, Miss Nora Yates.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. Geo. H. Richardson.—This week (twice nightly): Phil Ray; Harry Lamore; Willie Walker, comedian; Metz and Metz, dancers; Bob, Ivy, and Lyn in "The Garden of Music"; Alf Chester, comedian; Miller Bros., comedy bar artistes; Jennie Johns, comedian; and pictures.

TONYPANDY.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. Sam Duckworth; A. M., Mr. Walter E. Dovey.—This week: George Gilbey, Lancashire comedian; Carr's Eight Original American Ragtimers; Ada Cerito, comedienne; Rexart, comical juggler; Kingstons, vocal and instrumental act; the Empiroscope; and Ted Cowan, comedian.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Sole P., Mr. Will Stone; G. M., Mr. Edgar Harper.—This week: Ernie Mayne, comedian; May Henderson, dusky comedy queen; James and Chester, musical comedy; the Vagges, ball punching act; Fred Walmsey, burlesque comedian; Clifford Morgan, baritone; Sisters Earle, duettists and dancers; and pictures.

TORQUAY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee & M. D., Mr. W. H. Mortimer; S., Mr. Arthur Pearse.—This week: Mr. Joe Davies' London variety company, including: Billy Fauder, the Great Chandler, Vic Kaite, Cissie McCullum, the Sisters Barratt, Phyllis Spalding, Ethel Whiteley, and Cyril Scott. Next week: Mr. Herbert Jay's company in "Baby Mine."

ELECTRIC THEATRE.—M., Mr. Arthur Powell. —This week: Mr. Dave McNeill, Scotch comedian; and pictures.

WAKEFIELD.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., Sherwood and Co.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Evelyn A'Dell presents "The Old Home." Cast includes: Mr. Charles Franmore, Miss Amy Dalby, Mr. Evelyn A'Dell, Miss Harriette Loydall, Mr. Cliffe Astley, Mr. Reginald Brown, Mr. Fred Stone, Miss Ethel Ashleigh, Mr. John Ernest, Mr. Harry Dean, Mr. Tom Baker, and Mr. Jack Turner.

EMPIRE.—P., Sherwood and Co.—This week (twice nightly): Conway and Leland, the merry monopedes; Bert Lloyd presents "What a Pal!"; Rennie and Roxburg, musicians; Daisy and Dots, dancers; George Leavern, comedian; the Wallers, entertainers; Robb Gillmore, comedian; and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—L., Mr. Sydney Tolfree; A. M., Mr. Harry Heath.—This week (twice nightly): Jack Walsh, comedian; Baker and Gee, in a musical act; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.45.

GRAND ELECTRIC.—R. M., Mr. H. Dunnill.—This week (twice nightly): Lock and Glen, in comedy triple-bar act; Dan Lawley, eccentric comedian; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 3.

OPENING OF THE PALLADIUM, JOHANNESBURG.

The first company who opened the new Palladium (said to be the most luxurious and largest theatre in South Africa) in Johannesburg on March 1 last. The following are the artistes appearing in the photograph:—Six Flying Banvards, Fred Karno's Company, Millie Jillson, Elise Clerc, Bert Clerc, Dillon Shallard's Opera Trio, Lucy Gillett, Madge Osmond, Eight Sunray Girls, Gertrude Lester, Enil Zajah, Bellclair Brothers, Elizabeth Clair, R. Young (manager), J. L. Sacks (managing director).

WARRINGTON.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE. — P., Sir Joseph Beecham; G. M., Mr. A. M. Loader; A. M., Mr. H. L. Warburton.—This week (once nightly): "The Merchant of Venice" (Wednesday and Thursday); "Macbeth" (Friday and Saturday). Casts including: Mrs. R. Garnett, Mr. Harold Smith, M.P., Miss Gladys Adams, Mr. Charles Law. Next week: "A Butterfly on the Wheel."

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—P., Central Theatres Co.; R. M., Mr. Manville Morton; Mus. D., Mr. Thos. West.—This week (twice nightly): The Royal Repertory Company present "Send Him Victorious." The company includes: Mr. Sidney Ellis, Mr. A. C. Johns, Mr. Clavering Craig, Mr. Chas. E. Warne, Mr. Charles Vivian Charles, Mr. Edwin Mackenzie, Mr. Roy C. Hylton, Mr. R. Stewart, Mr. Jack Carroll, Miss Dudley Davies, Miss Phyllis Morton, Miss Vera Olga, Miss Hazel Head. Matinée, Thursday, 2.30.

WELLINGBOROUGH.

THE PALACE.—G. M., Mr. W. F. J. Hewitt; R. M., Mr. Joseph Baron; Mus. D., Mr. Herberte Jordan, A.L.C.M.—This week (twice nightly): On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, the Steingos, Bulgarian performers; Ada Gatley, equilibrist; Nelson Hardy, character ventriloquist. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, "The Great Detective." The company includes: C. Douglas Carlile, Lee Gilbert, Chas. A. Carlile, Herbert Danville, Gerald Blake, Arthur Snowden, Jed Gerald, Walter Brothers, Alf Gosnell, Alex. Walters, Frank Emptage, Albert Carlton, A. W. Jones, Miss Georgie Steed, Miss Minna Greene, Carlotta de Yonson.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.

GRAND THEATRE.—L., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. J. W. Seaward; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Taylor.—This week (twice nightly): Stanley Rogers' stock company in "Home, Sweet Home." The company includes: Mr. Albert Sember, Mr. C. Alan-Hineson, Mr. George Walkley, Mr. Fred Hodson, Mr. Cuthbert Taylor, Mr Edwin Morton, Mr. Alec Finlayson, Miss Alice Greenwood, Miss Lally Wynne, Little Clara Stokoe, Miss Ruth Shepherd.

EMPIRE.—M. D., Mr. Richard Thornton; M., Mr. S. Thornton Smurthwaite; Mus. D., Mr. Horace Marshall.—This week: Miss Juliette's Sea Lions; Lily Lister, comedienne and mimic; Rolf E. Slater and four ladies, in song and harmony; and pictures.

PALACE.—L., Mr. W. G. Alderson; M., Mr. W. Capner; Mus. D., Mr. S. Grahame.—This week: Pawson's Pert Premier People; Bob Campbell and Nava, the musical tramp; and pictures.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—P., Mr. Albany Ward; M., Mr. Fred Adderley.—This week: The Lador Troupe in acrobatic and comedy act; The Dalgarnos, in "Caught Napping"; the Two Rays, duettists; Les Palmas, double trapeze artistes; and pictures.

WHITEHAVEN.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. Will Gibson; C., Mr. Fred Merryman.—This week: The Lauray Trio, in musical act; Percy Gibson, boy soprano; Les Pagolas, in acrobatic speciality; and pictures.

PICTURE PALACE.—L., Mr. Victor Branfoard; A. M., Mr. J. T. Hurst.—This week: Geo. Morton and Doon, in "The Wrong Mr. Wright"; Toft and Tate, duettists and quick-change artistes; and pictures.

ST. JAMES' ELECTRIC THEATRE.—S., Mr. Victor Halliwell.—This week: Draycott and Draycott, vocalists; Two Cherubs, dancers and vocalists; Chas

FILM PLAY ARTISTES,

This column is devoted to the interests of actors and actresses who desire to appear in film plays, and of the managers who desire to engage them.

MR. H. R. WILLIAMS

Winner of Gold Medal and
Certificate of Merit
in Competition for Film Artistes,
INTERNATIONAL CINEMATOGRAPH EXHIBITION, OLYMPIA.

Business communications,
c/o "The Era" Office.

MISS ETHEL DENE

(SOPRANO VOCALIST),
Winner of Silver Medal and
Certificate of Merit
in Competition for Film Artistes,
INTERNATIONAL CINEMATOGRAPH EXHIBITION, OLYMPIA.

Business communications, c/o "The Era" Office.

MISS MIGNON O'DOHERTY

(Late of **Theatre Sarah Bernhardt, Paris**),
Awarded Diploma of Merit
in Competition for Film Artistes,
INTERNATIONAL CINEMATOGRAPH EXHIBITION, OLYMPIA.

Business communications, c/o "The Era" Office.

MISS NYDIA BENCK

(ACTRESS),
Awarded Diploma of Merit
in Competition for Film Artistes,
INTERNATIONAL CINEMATOGRAPH EXHIBITION, OLYMPIA.

Business communications,
c/o "The Era" Office.

MR. HARRISON NOBLE

Gained
"Special Merit" Award
in Competition for Film Artistes,
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CHILDREN AND THE CINEMA.

Some observations of special interest to managers of picture palaces and electric theatres were passed at Paignton Police Court recently in connection with an application for the renewal of a licence. The applicant stated that children under ten who came with no one in charge of them would not be admitted, and the police superintendent pointed out that the Act required that schoolchildren should be under the care of their teachers.

The chairman (Mr. G. Prestige) said nothing should be shown which would be improper for young children to see. Considerable objection had been raised in this respect by magistrates up and down the country. The applicant said not only was there a good staff to look after the safety of everyone, but that there was a public censor of films by whom they were passed before they were sent out to be shown.

Mr. A. L. Spens, a magistrate, urged that whatever was exhibited should be of such a nature that it could be seen by children as well as grown-ups, and that the manager should be very careful in this respect. The chairman added that they were anxious to protect the youth of the town and to prevent them from appearing before the magistrates in the children's court, because it was well known that in various parts of the country it was the opinion of many justices that picture palaces, unless they were carefully supervised, tended to create housebreaking and an immoral tendency in children.

Mr. J. B. Eastley (magistrates' clerk) stated that there was no such person in existence as an official public censor, and it was explained that there was a voluntary board of film censors. The licence was renewed on the condition that the films shown should first have been passed by this board of censors.

"Sunny Italy."

This finely pictured scenic film is to be released by the Gaumont Co. on April 24, and is a short study of an Italian village nestling on one of the gentle slopes that are characteristic of the countryside of the Campania. The pictures include a general view of the neighbourhood, with successive projections of the churchyard, the monastry of Monte Cassino, Cassino itself, and Calitri. 250ft.

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FILM GOSSIP.

Mr. Eric Williams' Bioscope Stories.

Mr. Eric Williams has just completed a six months' continuous engagement with Messrs. A. Rosenthal and Walter Hyman, and during that period has appeared at all the principal theatres controlled by Cinema House, Ltd., and the Electric Theatres (1908), Ltd., under the management of Mr. W. M. Borradaile. His most notable successes have been achieved at Cinema House, Oxford-street; the Majestic, Tottenham Court-road; and at Camden Town, Norwich, Birmingham, Bristol, and Brighton, to several of which he has paid return visits. At Easter he was appearing at the Walpole Theatre, Ealing, and during the week there was a record attendance of nearly 40,000. Gaumonts, Ltd., are now engaged in producing several new and important recitation films for Mr. Eric Williams.

Special Music for "Drake's Love Story."

The Hepworth Manufacturing Co., who on April 6 released the now well-known picture, "Drake's love story," have sent us a copy of the incidental music which has been written specially for the piece, and which is supplied with that film at a small extra cost. This music is very well written and adds considerably to the attractiveness of the picture. Messrs. Hepworth state that this is the first time a complete suite of music has been specially composed for any distinctive picture, and so great has been the success of the venture that it has been decided to issue with each special feature a complete suite of appropriate music. This venture is, we understand, without doubt the biggest and most complete thing of its kind yet undertaken by any house in the trade, and the publishers have found that the special music has greatly enhanced the value of the picture. The owners who have already taken advantage of this new idea are quite satisfied with the results.

Mr. Harrison Noble.

Mr. Harrison Noble had such a satisfactory number of points awarded in the competition for film artistes at the International Cinematograph Exhibition, Olympia, that he only just missed winning the second prize. Although never actually "facing the footlights" as a professional, he has been in great demand as an amateur, and is decidedly an acquisition to family parties and social entertainments. Of refined appearance, Mr. Noble would make an excellent "aristocratic old man" or retired military officer. He comes of a theatrical family, being a brother of Mr. Tom Noble, the well-known theatrical manager. He has travelled a good deal abroad, spending many years of his life among negroes, besides making frequent journeys to Texas (in parts where the revolver is looked upon as a plaything). Owing to his rough-riding experiences there, he is eminently fitted to appreciate and estimate correctly scenes of life in the Wild West of America from a picture point of view.

Kinemacolor in State Schools.

It is highly probable that Greece will be first among the nations to adopt Kinemacolor as a factor in national instruction, the Minister of Education at Athens having opened negotiations with Mr. Charles Urban for an early installation of no less than four thousand natural-colour Kinematograph projecting machines, etc., in the State schools. Each outfit is to include a generous and varied equipment of films, the chief subjects selected embracing scenes of every country of the globe, with its ruling industries, naval and military progression, natural history and phenomena (especially), historical events of recent happening, and a large assortment of State ceremonies of paramount importance.

Leicester Picture Theatres.

At the Picture House a well-diversified programme includes "The title cure," "The clue," "The Lady at the G.P.O.," "Colombo," "The better man," "Tweedledum on his first bicycle," "Birds of Prey," "Edelweiss," "The making of Bronco Billy," and "Excursion to the Pyramids." The fine orchestra here receives rounds of applause for their overture, "Morning, Noon and Night" (Suppé).

The Floral Hall Picture Theatre, which has the advantage of being connected and on the same property as the Palace, continues to give of the best in the cinema art. The programme includes the Thanhouser big feature, "Aurora Floyd" (in two parts), "Ostrich feather industry," "The better man," "The lady at the G.P.O.," "The press gang," "The prosecuting attorney," "A lost lunch," and "Stout and Lea's honeymoon."

At the Grand Electric Palace a very good picture shown is "The black bandit." Others that stand out prominently include "The farmer's daughter," "Lady Peggy's escape," "The title cure," "Sue Simkins' ambition," "The farm bully," "The better man," "The jolly acrobats," etc.

Electric Picture Palace, Limerick.

Miss Lily Ward is the attraction at the Limerick Electric Picture Palace this week. A dainty and refined comedienne and danseuse, she has been capitally received. The Topical Budget is certainly a pictorial novelty, and the films of the Walturdaw Photo Mark are quite unique in their interest and topography. "The bank robbery," in which the dog Spot and Detective Hawkshaw are the figureheads, is a very realistic characterisation, and "A mother's strategy" is quite appealing. We are pleased with the musical word settings to the new films by Miss O'Connor, and Mr. W. J. Potts as an operator could not be excelled. Directors Ledger and Cutbush can be well congratulated.

The Re-decorated Theatre Royal, Limerick.

The Theatre Royal, Limerick, is now entirely out of the hands of the decorative artists, and the energetic management threw open its new portals to a large audience on Monday night. A great incentive to the patrons was the appearance of the Miles-Stavordale Quintette, a delightful musical-vocal embodiment of sweet and pathetic renderings. The Gaumont Graphic is as interesting as heretofore, and the Kalem and Pathé pictorials are applauded. The proprietor, Mr. George V. Fogerty, has certainly made delightful improvements in the old playhouse of Catherine Hayes notoriety.

Film-acting Competition.

Miss Ethel Dene writes: "I should be obliged if you would correct an error which appeared in your issue of April 12, in which you stated that I was awarded silver medal in above competition. I, the first lady prize winner, was awarded gold medal, the second lady silver, and the third lady bronze."

Windsor Electric Theatre, Woolwich.

Mr. William McWilliam, the genial manager here, has just reason to be proud of his achievements. A few months after taking over the hall he found it too small for his patrons, and enlarged it to accommodate another 400 persons. He has now installed a new scheme for lighting. This consists of two massive iron columns 20ft. high surmounted by 3,000-c.p. "Keith-Light" lanterns in the front of the house, and on the side abuttal three enormous iron ornamental "swan-neck" brackets, with a 10ft. "sweep," having from each a 1,000-c.p. "Keith-Light" lantern attached. This 9,000-c.p. illumination is in addition to the electric lighting, and the house is now perhaps the best lighted in South London.

On the first night (Monday last) of this flood of light Mr. McWilliam, in one of those pithy little speeches for which he is noted, said he hoped that now the people of Woolwich would be able to see their way clear to pay him an occasional visit. A stentorian voice soon after sang out "For he's a jolly good fellow," and in an instant a thousand voices took it up, three cheers for "Mac" being called for, to which everybody responded.

"Topsy-Turvy Love Affair."

To be released on April 30 by the Western Import Co., this amusing comedy film tells the following story. At the seashore Grace Winters and her pretty young aunt meet two charming gentlemen, Dick Van Allen and his guardian, Paul Deacon. Dick thinks his guardian too attentive to the pretty aunt, and a quarrel ensues. They decide to settle the matter by a duel. The French chef acts as second, and at the last moment, in collusion with the clerk of the hotel, changes the bullets for breadcrumbs. The chef directs the duel, and at the command of "fire" both discharge their guns and fall, believing themselves mortally wounded. But they discover the truth, and as aunty and Grace rush up, have occasion to thank the chef. A minister who had been in attendance is pressed into service, and a double wedding takes place. 995ft.

Manufacturers', Renters', and Exhibitors' Agreement.

It is satisfactory to learn that the recent dispute in the kinematograph trade has been terminated by the mutual understanding for the basis of an agreement amicable to the three sections of the trade: manufacturers, renters, and exhibitors. The three associations, representing these sections have had daily meetings during the last two weeks for the purpose of arriving at a basis for an agreement which would remove recognised disabilities on the part of manufacturers and renters, and at the same time fully safeguard the position of the exhibitors. The joint committee of the three associations is now busily engaged in drafting out the terms of the agreement, which, we understand, will place this important industry upon a sound basis and guarantee industrial peace for all those engaged in it for some years to come.

"The Altar of the Aztecs."

This picturesque and romantic film is to be released on April 20 by the Selig Polyscope Co. The story deals with the strange adventures encountered by Edwin Dalton, a young American mining engineer, in the ancient silver mines of the Aztecs in Sonoma, Old Mexico. It starts with a brilliant social function, given by Juan Caballes, an Americanised descendant of the old Spanish Aztecs, and now a wealthy mineowner on the New York Stock Exchange. The story is carried through scene after scene of original and gripping incidents and picturesque settings, until, at last, the hero finds himself imprisoned in a tumble-down silver mine in far off Condilleras, Mexico. A strong love story is interwoven throughout. 1,038ft.

"Joe, the Pirate."

This is an amusing comedy, to be released by J. F. Brockliss and Co. on April 24. Old Silas Stuble is reading aloud a paper containing a fearsome account of a "Black Hand" gang which has just kidnapped two girls. The neighbours listen with horror and astonishment. Two boys who are standing near are in raptures at the doings of the scoundrels, and determine to become pirates. They stick up warning notices from the "Black Hand" gang which terrify the simple villagers and then retire to their lair. They succeed in capturing some small children and are delighted with their success, but Nemesis awaits them in the form of the kiddies' parents, and the "pirates" retire to roost very sore. 549ft.

"The Man He Might Have Been."

This powerful and vividly acted picture is to be released by the Edison Co. on April 26. It tells the simple story of a boy with a longing for knowledge and the better things of life which education brings. His father, a plain man, is content with an ordinary school education for the boy, and puts him at work, in spite of the protests of the school principal. Consequently the boy is forced into drudgery which takes the heart out of him. Throughout the picture as he grows older before our eyes, we see that he has not lost sight of the man he might have been, and the things he might have done. But he travels the wrong road, and goes from hopelessness to recklessness, reaping the reward of the latter in an unhappy marriage instead of winning the sweet girl he loved as a boy. 1,000ft.

"The Unwilling Bride."

This is an engrossing and finely pictured Indian film, to be released by Pathé Frères on April 30. The chief of the Pawnees Camp sends a message to the neighbouring Chief of Cheyenne, to say that his daughter may be had in marriage if the Cheyenne will send a suitable messenger to fetch her away. Running Bear is chosen, and upon his arrival at the camp the girl is placed upon his horse. She falls in love with the messenger, and will not look at the chief she has been sent to marry. A child belonging to the tribe overhears a conversation between the lovers and runs to warn the chief. He is furious, and orders Running Bear to leave the camp. When a party of traders arrive to exchange goods with the Indians the unwilling bride is bartered for a gun. She escapes from the white men and joins her lover. They hide in a tree until danger of recapture is passed, when they are able to fly in safety. 1,040ft.

"The Greater Love."

This is an intense drama, to be released by the American Co. on April 26. Ed. Evans kisses Betty good-bye and goes West. In a Mexican boarding house he meets Conchita, who promptly falls in love with him. One day Jose, her lover, hurls a rock from the top of the mountains and breaks Edward's leg. Betty, in a distant city, hearing of the accident, goes at once to Edward's bedside. Conchita soon realises the truth, and when Jose attempts Evans' life Conchita, seeing the knife over her shoulder, throws herself over the sick man and receives the blade in her back, thus sacrificing her life that Evans might be happy. 997ft.

"The Persevering Cabby."

Under the above title the Urbanora Co. will release on April 30 a capital comic, dealing with the final undoing of Mr. Brown, a cabdriver, who is driven to desperation by the taxis taking all his customers. He resolves to obtain fares by force, and commences by stopping a pedestrian, who, with his bag, is hurrying to the station. The cabby bundles him into the old four-wheeler and drives off with him triumphantly. Soon a dozen or more are packed into the cab, but the crazy old vehicle cannot stand the weight, and as the horse struggles up a hill the shafts break off and the cab and its contents are hurled to the bottom, where the passengers crawl out from beneath the ruins, much shaken and bruised, while the old cabby leads off his horse feeling that luck has deserted him for ever. 375ft.

At a recent meeting of the Bristol Board of Guardians it was stated that a sum of a million pounds was spent every year in the city in amusements. The building of picture palaces largely accounted for the increase in the city's rateable value.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

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Good News for Showmen.

The traction engine trouble which loomed so largely and threateningly at the end of 1912 has had a set-back. There has been such a demonstration of opposition to the County Council proposals by the trades and interests threatened that the General Executive Council of the Federated Counties have sent back the penalising proposals of last year to the Highways Committee of the County Councils' Association for reconsideration and amendment. This decision on the part of the counties puts the whole question back as far as Parliamentary action is concerned. This is the good news—that nothing serious can be now attempted for twelve months; perhaps for a longer time than that.

The Immense Value of United Action.

Although their interests are not identical—except upon the important points of right to use the roads without penalties imposed at the arbitrary will of county officials and county-made by-laws—five important trade interests have combined to fight the proposals, or anything like them. The five trade societies are the National Association of Steam-traction Owners and Users, the Steam Hauliers' Society, the Heavy Motor Trolley Owners' Trade Society, the Motor Wagon Traders' Association, and the Showmen's Guild (this latter trade society representing the Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union, and the kindred socities of Showland). The chaplain and secretary of the Guild, the Rev. T. Horne being secretary of the Union, unites the show trade interests in the one delegation. Four or five important committee meetings of the allied trade societies have taken place since December, 1912, and we know that the determined action of that joint committee (both in Parliament and out) has brought about the movement amongst the county authorities to set back the matter and to take more time for consideration. This is altogether for the good of the showmen's interests, and we hasten to allay the justifiable alarm that showmen owners of tractors were feeling a little while back.

Double Advantages of Delay.

The allied interests will continue their trade defence work and will proceed with the strengthening of their influence and position in Parliament and with the general public. Out of the dispute a great economic principle is being evolved. It was the chaplain of the Showmen's Guild who formulated and expressed this new economic truth. It is set forth in the now historic phrase, "*Make the roads good enough to bear the traffic and trade of the country.*"

This economic truth was received with enthusiastic approval by the traders and makers of tractors, whether steam or petrol-driven, in August last at the Manchester protest meeting, and again at the joint meeting at the Smithfield Show in December at the Royal Agricultural Hall, London.

It is a clear issue. The reform of our great highways is a national concern. It can no longer be left to local authorities. We have already in the Road Board the suggestion of a national authority to maintain the great arteries of communication—the highways of the United Kingdom. The roads are daily becoming more and more the channels through which the home trade circulates. The petrol trolley and the steam tractors are bearing on our highways an ever-increasing volume of trade and manufacture. We must not for any mistaken local parsimony, or merely to save the rates, fall back on a retrograde policy.

The trade of the Empire must not be under the arbitrary will of county officials or held up by local by-laws—county officials whose one idea in life is to make the traffic light enough to suit the roads, and not the roads good enough to carry the trade and commerce of the country.

The Nature of the Averted Danger.

In a special article in "The Era" last August we dealt fully with the penalising and retrogade proposals of the counties. It will be enough at the present stage of the question if we briefly summarise their leading features: County councils, county officials, and the police were to have enormously increased powers of supervision and control over steam and petrol motor tractors on the highways and byways of the country; surveyors to decide what roads may be used by, or closed down to, steam or petrol haulage; restrictions and increased fees with regard to owners' and drivers' licences; the limitation of the gross weight of the engine and load to suit the badly-kept or worse made roads—these are the penalising proposals that showmen and other threatened traders are invited to fight in the country and in Parliament. Showmen whose interests would be most vitally affected must remember that their Guild and the Roundabout Proprietors' Union have an expensive struggle to wage, and that money is the sinews of warfare. Both these societies are doing all that can be done, and deserve the support of all showmen.

Wrexham Fair.

Our Fairground correspondent has sent an excellent list of the amusements at the Fair. This includes Sedgwick's great British menagerie, P. Collins' No. 1 scenic railway and set of steam yachts, Miss Margaret Collins' fine set of three-abreast galloping horses, and Mr. P. Collins', jun., motor car switchback; Mr. J. R. Styles' beautiful model show, the Convict City; Mr. J. Caddick's, jun., interesting model exhibition, the Gold Mine; Mr. W. Bedford's miniature Zoo; Professor Zamra's Palace of Mystery; Lennard's abnormal novelties, the Boston Twins; and Mr. Harry Hughes' famous troupe of British boxers. Mr. Joe Caddick's American Photo Studio occupied its old-time position at the main entrance to the Fair; indeed, without Mr. Caddick's presence Wrexham Fair could hardly be said to be historically perfect.

Minor Attractions, and "All the Fun of the Fair."

The names that we are able to give of the standard-bearers of all the jolly fun of the fair are not exhaustive, but merely indicative of the crowd of amusement caterers upon this circuit. The shooting ranges were provided by Messrs. Fossett, Wright, an dTurner; throwing games in splendid variety by Messrs. Cordwell, Bettany, Street, Sheldon, Fletcher, Chadwick, Lewis, and J. Caddick, jun.

Coventry Fair.

This famous fair attracted vast crowds of visitors. The shows, roundabouts, and minor amusements were Holland and Sons' picture palace, A. Sedgwick's lion show, P. Collins' scenic railway, galloping horses, and steam yachts, Brumby's razzle-dazzle, Mrs. Lowe's steam swings and shooting range, Kent's juvenile roundabout, and shooting concerns by Mrs. Parkin and A. Parkin; bazaars, pannum stalls, and toy stalls by Jephson-Suett, Bromidge, Payne, and Whiston; throwing games in great variety by W. Cottam, T. Essam, W. Young, H. F. Wright, W. Mills, F. Parr, F. Parkin, R. Theodore, and Mrs. Parkin.

Tetbury Fair.

The chief providers of popular amusements here were the local showmen, Messrs. Symonds and Co. and John Cole and Sons, with shows, roundabouts, and games.

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MR. W. T. HEMSLEY. Artist. Scenic Studio, FELIX-ST., WESTMINSTER BRIDGE-RD., S.E. 'Phone, 1853 Hop.

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Originality in Design and Colour; first-class work only at **moderate prices.**
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This list is specially compiled for "The Era" by Messrs. Rayner and Co., registered patent agents, 37, Chancery-lane, London, from whom all information relating to patents, designs, trade marks, etc., can be obtained gratuitously.

LATEST PATENT APPLICATIONS.

7,657.—Alfred Presuell. Passenger or passengers carrying aeroplane flight for theatrical purposes, produced by mechanical illusion. April 1, 1913.

7,701.—Felix Marcotte. Miniature theatres. April 1, 1913.

7,717.—William Henry Wilson. Recreation and toy railways. April 1, 1913.

8,058.—Alexander Kiparski. Apparatus for totalising and indicating the number of tickets or the like delivered by separate ticket boxes or the like. April 5, 1913.

8,115.—Louis Heathcote Walter. Luminous electric devices. April 7.

8,148.—Joseph Elie Theodule Jacquemin and Jules Joseph Marie Gheslain Strobants. Target-practice devices. April 7.

8,197.—Augustine Constantine Anderson. Method of advertising. April 7.

8,495.—Edward Henry Coutcher and George Wheldon Grace. Apparatus for amusement and recreation. April 10.

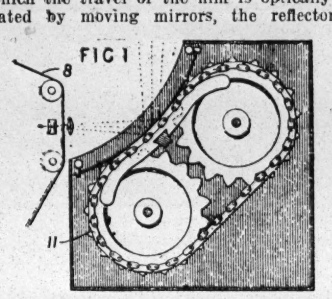
SPECIFICATIONS PUBLISHED THIS WEEK.

17,536.—Bates, Kelly, and Corbin. Target apparatus for use with kinematographs.

10,976.—Crabb. Toy or amusement device.

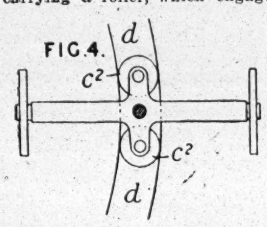
LATEST PUBLISHED ABSTRACT.

"KINEMATOGRAPHS" (28,386).—In apparatus in which the travel of the film is optically compensated by moving mirrors, the reflectors 11,



when in operation, have an angle between them of less than two right-angles, and move in a path concave to the projecting beam and at the same rate as the film 8, but in an opposite direction. They may form a frustum of a cone or pyramid.

"Amusement and Recreative Apparatus, etc.' (28,856.) Relates to means for guiding a trolly car of toboggan upon a track. To the centre of each fixed axle of the car is fixed a vertical spindle carrying a roller, which engages with a



slot in the track, or two spindles carrying rollers side by side may be used. Fig 4 shows a modification for use with swivelling axles, in which two rollers c_2, one on each side of the axle, engage a central slot d in the track, so as to keep the wheels parallel to the slot. J. Mottershead and another.

Printed copies of the published specification can be obtained from Messrs. Rayner and Co. at the price of 1s.

Bedford Fair.

The shows at this fair were the picture theatres of Messrs. H. and W. Thurston. The other entertainments were Shaw's galloping horses; shooters by Mr. Harris, S. Harris, and W. Welch; swings and highfliers by Messrs. Harris Bros. and Welch; and throwing games, houp-la frames, and coker sheets by Messrs. Essam, Wright, Barnard, Johnson, and Harris Bros.

Midland Notes.

At Alcester were Barrie's picture show and F. Peters and Sons' galloping horses, with minor amusements, &c. At Astwood Bank, Holloway's Theatre has had a successful season. Jennings' portable theatre is at Studley; Snape's portable theatre at Henley-in-Arden; Holloway's picture palace at Knowle; Herbert's roundabouts and other attractions at Headless Cross; and the Wild Australia show has paid flying visits to Stratford-on-Avon and Evesham.

Hampshire Show Notes.

Arnold's picture and variety theatre, together with fairground novelties, side shows, hoop-la circles, coker sheets, striking machines, &c., had a successful Fancy Fair season at West Meon.

Beccles Spring Fair.

Mr. Charles Thurston, with vaudeville show, motor-car switchback, gallopers, and other attractions, is at Beccles for the week-end. With him are a number of Norfolk showmen, with all the fun of the fair.

Worksop Fair.

The showmen and other amusement providers at this fixture were Messrs. G. T. Tuby and Sons, with scenic railway, galloping horses, swings, and throwing games; Professor Howard, with X-ray exhibition; Mr. Hunt, with shooting range and games; and A. Illingworth, with minor amusements.

Notes from Wales.

The following circuses are on tour in Wales this season:—Fossett's Wild West show, Broncho Bill's Wild West circus, and John Sanger and Sons' big show.

A well-deserved benefit was accorded on Saturday evening at the New Spa, Bridlington, to Mr. George Robinson, the electrician and operator of the cinematograph pictures, and Mr. Victor Medcalf and his bijou orchestra. Both gentlemen have been for some years connected with the successful picture shows at the Bridlington Spa Opera House, and much of the success has been due to the excellent work done by Mr. Robinson, and the talented and appropriate music which has been given by Mr. Medcalf and his clever family of musicians. There was a crowded house to bid them farewell, and a big programme was provided, which included songs by that fine tenor-vocalist, Mr. Fred Fallas, and a musical sketch at the piano by Mr. Warwick Pryce, both of whom have been appearing at the Prince's Parade. Mr. Victor Medcalf contributed a finely rendered violin solo, for which he was deservedly encored. The pictures, which were voted to be some of the best ever shown here, included a fine film, "The parting of the ways," one of the newest Pathé productions. Both Mr Robinson and Mr. Medcalf have secured a host of friends during their stay here, and the hearty send-off on Saturday night was evidence that they had secured the esteem of the patrons of the New Spa.

"SIXTEEN-STRING JACK."

THE KING OF THE HEATH.

A Comedy Drama in Four Acts, Produced at the Foresters' Music Hall on Monday, April 14.

Humphrey Greville	Mr. Conrad Clerke
Frederic Grantley	Mr. David Noble
Jack Rann	Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan
Peter Peppercorn	Mr. Ernest Plumpton
Horace Daunton	Mr. Alex. J. Haviland
Kit Clayton	Mr. Matt Wilkinson
Scarlet Peter	Mr. Percy Emery
Jailor	Mr. Harry Snelson
Rose Grantley	Miss Effie Bartlett
Brown Bess	Miss Dorothy Milne
Amelia	Miss Eveline Kington
Sophia	Miss Sophie Fane
Agatha	Miss Dorothy Varden

That notable knight of the road, "Sixteen-String Jack"—so called on account of his always wearing sixteen strings of ribbon to his top boots—is the hero of the above piece. In the first scene a wedding party is intruded upon by Horace Daunton and Kit Clayton two highwaymen, who inform the bridegroom that they possess a will belonging to his uncle, and for which they demand a large sum of money. Jack Rann—otherwise Sixteen-String Jack—appears to assist in the plot, and an arrangement is made for the real heir to visit the gang's lodgings to settle the matter. The wife is greatly shocked over her husband's sudden departure, for which he refuses to disclose the reason, and while asleep dreams that he is being ill-treated by some ruffians. She awakes and repairs to the scene depicted, arriving just in time to frustrate the efforts of the gang. In the third act Jack arranges a burglary at Humphrey Greville's mansion, and, disguised as a young lord, obtains admission to the house. We learn that Humphrey Greville is an assumed name, which was taken through the owner being disgraced by his son, a scapegrace, who turns out to be no other than the mock lord, otherwise Sixteen String Jack. The fourth act is a cell in Newgate, where Jack has been condemned to death, but he manages to escape, with the assistance of his former mistress, Brown Bess. He is quickly captured, but through the aid of his father he obtains a reprieve.

Mr. Stephen E. Scanlan as Jack Rann proved himself an actor of high qualifications, his agreeable personality and breezy style being of the utmost advantage. Mr. Alex. J. Haviland played the character of Horace Daunton perfectly, his powerful acting in the many complicated situations being really effective. Mr. Matt Wilkinson is a sound comedian, and as Kit Clayton he made the most of his humorous opportunities. Miss Effie Bartlett won much favour for her clever interpretation of the bride, Rose Grantley, and was ably assisted by Mr. David Noble as Frederic Grantley, who furnished an impersonation both touching and human. A piece of forceful acting was given by Miss Dorothy Milne as Brown Bess, her scenes with Jack Rann being capital. Excellent work was done by Mr. Conrad Clerke as Humphrey Greville, Mr. Ernest Plumpton as Peter Peppercorn, a versatile character, and Mr. Percy Emery and Mr. Harry Snelson. The piece is mounted with excellent taste and liberality, the costumes being most effective.

MUSIC AT HARRINGAY.

On Saturday, April 12, an evening concert of considerable interest to music-lovers was held at Allison Hall, Harringay. The feature of the evening was to have been the appearance of Miss Rosa Ehrlich, a young violinist of rare distinction and unqualified promise, but, unhappily, Miss Ehrlich has contracted a serious illness, and has been ordered a complete rest. Mr. Carl A. Müller and Mr. Harry E. King, however, were fortunately enabled to present a programme containing sufficient talent and merit to eradicate completely any lingering disappointment.

The principal part was undertaken by Miss Edyth Harrhy, who is a pianist unusually gifted in control and in touch, gifts which have been well developed by careful training. Miss Harrhy also possesses a soprano voice exceedingly delicate of tone and of fair compass. Miss Irma Suranyi (who is surely new to this country), a young Hungarian violinist, displayed a rather remarkable mastery of her instrument, and although one would infer she has not studied according to any acknowledged modern school, nevertheless she imbues her playing with unmistakable grip and infects it with her quite extraordinary temperament. The remainder of the programme was supplied by Mr. Walter Dennis, who sang many charming songs delightfully, and who is the owner of a fine tenor voice of comprehensive register. The programme contained nothing especially difficult of execution or that afforded opportunity of exhibiting an unusual degree of technique, but rather was comprised largely of popular and comparatively simple compositions, such as Rachmaninoff's Prelude in C sharp minor, "Berceuse" by Godard, and the "Serenade" of Pierné. But the merit of each artiste and the general excellence of effect were completely satisfying, with the result that the audience were most appreciative.

Miss Edyth Harrhy opened the programme with the Scherzo in B minor by Chopin; Mr. Walter Dennis sang "To daisies" by Roger Quilter, "A lament" by S. Coleridge Taylor, and "Onaway, awake beloved!" by Cowen; Miss Irma Suranyi rendered Wieniawski's "Légende," the Nocturne by Chopin-Sarasate, Schumann's "Traümerei," and Godard's "Berceuse," and once, in response to an insistent encore, gave an interlude that we fancy bears the title of "The Swallow." Miss Harrhy also performed upon the pianoforte a valse of her own composition and the prelude mentioned above. In addition she sang "A last year's rose" by Roger Quilter, "Romance" by the Baroness Rothschild, and "A song of sunshine" by Goring Thomas. A number of other items were rendered, but the above is representative of the best efforts of the evening, which was a thoroughly enjoyable and successful one.

If there be anything in the criticisms of the Parisian journals, we may expect something very particular in the production of the great French revue from the Ba-ta-Clan Theatre, Paris, which will be produced at the New Middlesex on May 5. The revue is entitled "J'adore Ca," with an English equivalent of "I Love It," and will be staged in 18 tableaux. In all there are 50 members in the company, and of the production "Le Journal" says:—"It would be difficult to find a more beautiful, magnificent, and artistic performance. The greatest success! The most beautiful women of France! 'J'adore Ca' is undoubtedly a masterpiece."

The 18 tableaux are as follow:—Le Paradis des Jouets, La Roseraie de Bagatelle, Les Œuvres de Massenet (le Manoir d'Egreville), Don Quichotte, Cendrillon, Werther, Griselidis, Manon, Sous le Pont de l'Alma, Les Villes d'Amour Seville, Versailles, Isola Bella, Rome sous les Borgia, Le Restaurant du Bois, La Valse Rouge, A Boulogne, Le Triomphe de l'Aviation, Apotheose. Among the half-century members of the company will be Mmes. Stilla, Dalny, Darfeuille, Bercy, Felken, Lancey, de Klotto, Arnould, Elyett, Dulti, Syma, Sehane, Micheline, Ilsonn, Mignon, Thervyl, Marcelle Munier, Fereol, Kempf, and Chamberthal, MM. Chapelle, Niel, Carlys, Vadoz, and Maurier, and a troupe of 16 dancers.

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WANTED, First-class Companies for KENNINGTON THEATRE, S.E., Aug. 18, 25, Sept. 15, Oct. 6, 13, 20, Dec. 8, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E., May 26, June 2, Aug. 25, Sept. 8, Oct. 6, 13, 20, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING, May 19, 26, Aug. 11, 18, 25, Oct. 13, 20, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER, May 19, Aug. 11, 18, Oct. 6, 13, Nov. 24, Dec. 8, on
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER, Dec. 15.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON, May 12, Aug. 11, 18, Sept. 8, 22, 29, Nov. 24, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD, May 19, Aug. 11, 18, 25, Sept. 15, 29, Oct. 13, 20, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON, Aug. 4, 11, 25, Sept. 1, 8, 22, Nov. 17, 24, Dec. 1, 8, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER, May 12, June 2, July 7, 14, 21, Aug. 4, 11, Sept. 15, on.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Company for Huddersfield, May 19. Reading, May 19, 26. Wolverhampton, May 12. Wire, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

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Lessee and Manager, Jules Richeux.
WANTED, Wanted, First-class Attractions, May 12, and few Autumn vacancies. Bookings: D'Oyly Carte, "Merry Widow," "Arcadians," "Our Miss Gibbs," "Kismet," "Milestones," "Ready Money," "The Quaker Girl," "Chocolate Soldier," Mrs. Langtry, "Waltz Dream," "Count of Luxembourg," "The Whip," "Glad Eye," "Bunty Pulls the Strings," "Sunshine Girl," "Drake," &c.
Re dates, Jay and Mann.

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Seating capacity over 1,000.
Holding £120 at ordinary prices.
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Re dates, apply Jay and Mann.
Other coms., W. R. Wallis, Manager.

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WANTED, Wanted, Companies, May 5 (week), May 12 (three nights), May 19 (week), and various dates onwards.
Also one or two season dates.
Apply, G. Hayes, Pier, Eastbourne.

THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE.
WANTED, May 5, May 5, June 2, on, exceptions. Weathersby, 3, Bedford-st., W.C.

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WANTED, First-class Attractions for Whit week, Aug. Bank Holiday, Aug. 25, Sept. 8, 15, 22, Oct. 13, 22, Nov. 3 and 24. J. E. Bull, as above.

THEATRE ROYAL, PETERBOROUGH.
Lessee, Lieut.-Col. Winstanley.
Bookings, first three nights of each week.
WANTED, Companies, May 19, onwards.
All communications re dates, Adams' Agency, Broadmead House, Panton-st., S.W.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Lessee and Manager, Sidney Bacon.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Sept. 15 and 29, Oct. 20 and 27, Nov. 3, on.
Bookings include: "Bunty Pulls the Strings," "The Glad Eye," "Chocolate Soldier," "Milestones," "Count of Luxembourg," "Hindle Wakes," "Butterfly on the Wheel," and "The Quaker Girl."
Address, Sidney Bacon, 143, Charing Cross-road, London, W.C.
Telephone, 1456 Gerrard. Tele., "Nocabdis Ox-London."

THEATRE ROYAL, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Sept. 1, 15, 29, Oct. 20.
Bookings for 1913 include: Mr. George Edwardes' Repertoire Co., "The Girl in the Taxi," "Milestones," The O'Mara Opera Co., "Princess Caprice," "Hindle Wakes" (3rd visit), &c., &c.
Address, Charles Revill, T.R., Stockport.

THEATRE ROYAL, YORK.
WANTED, good Dramas for June 2, 16, 23, July 14, 21.
Percy Hutchison, 4, Finchley-road, N.W.

THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON SPA.
Lessee, C. S. BIRCH.
WANTED FIRST CLASS CO.'S ONLY.
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June, July, August.
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Vacant May 5, Aug. 18, 25, Sept. 15, 22, Oct. 20, onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
(Arrangements complete.)

THEATRE ROYAL, TONYPANDY.
Spring Vacancies.

NEW THEATRE, BARRY.
Spring Vacancies.

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Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
(Arrangements complete.)

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Spring Vacancies.

Wanted, Large Theatre to produce "Cinderella" Pantomime next Season.
Wanted, to Let, on Royalty, for Stock Season or Tour, several Important Dramas, including "The Prairie Flower," "Our British Empire," &c., &c.
All communications to Arthur Carlton, Ravenscourt, Worcester.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Aug. 4, 11, 25, Sept. 15, 29, Oct. 6, on, with exceptions. Bookings for spring, 1913, include: "Brewster's Millions," "The Queen Mother," F. R. Benson Co., "The Arcadians," "Babes in the Wood," "Cinderella," "The Glad Eye," "The Chocolate Soldier," "The Silver King," "Man and Superman," "The Girl in the Train," "The Speckled Band," "Hindle Wakes," and "The Count of Luxembourg." Applications for dates, Hugh Robertson, St. Brelades Bay Hotel, Jersey.

WANTED, First-class Attractions only.
T.R., DUBLIN, April 28 (?).
G.T., DUBLIN, May 19, 26, June 9.
O.H., BELFAST, May 12, 19, 26.
O.H., CORK, June 2, Aug. 4, 11.
G.T., SWANSEA, May 19, June 23, 30, July 7.
G.T., SOUTHAMPTON.
T.R., BOURNEMOUTH.
P.P.T., BRIGHTON, April 28, June 2.
HIPPO., DARLINGTON.
Apply, The Fredk. Mouillot Offices, 1, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, MIDDLESBROUGH.
Feb. 17, Joseph O'Mara Opera Co. Feb. 24, "Bella Donna." March 3, "Waltz Dream." March 10, "Milestones." March 17, Mr. Fred Terry and Miss Julia Neilson. March 24, "Chocolate Soldier" (4th visit). March 31, "The Arcadians" (6th visit). April 7, F. R. Benson's Co. (4th visit). April 14, "Kismet." April 24. "Hindle Wakes." April 28, "Princess Caprice." May 5, "Bunty Pulls the Strings" (2nd visit). May 12, Middlesbrough Amateur Opera Society in "Dorothy."
"Improper Peter," "The Glad Eye" (2nd visit), "Doormats," "The Sign of the Cross," "Quaker Girl," "The Whip," "The Dancing Mistress," "The Girl in the Taxi," "Dust of Egypt," "Autumn Manœuvres," "The Barrier," &c., &c.
WANTED, First-class Attractions. Vacant dates:—June 2, Aug. 4 and 25, Sept. 8, Nov. 24, Dec. 1, 8, and 15.
Address, J. Chas. Imeson, Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough.

THEATRE ROYAL, PLYMOUTH.
Managing Director, Mr. James M. Glover.
WANTED, First-class Companies, June 9, onwards, Sept. 15, Nov. 24, Dec. 1, Dec. 15.
Bookings this year: "The Arcadians," "Oh! Oh! Delphine," "Flag Lieutenant," "Waltz Dream," "The Girl in the Taxi," Carl Rosa (two weeks), "Kismet," "The Dancing Mistress," "The Sunshine Girl," "The Whip," "The Dollar Princess," "The Merry Widow," "The King of Cadonia," New Gaiety Play, "Drake" (No. 1), The Follies (three weeks), "The Pink Lady," &c.
Address, J. M. Glover, Theatre Royal, Drury-lane.

THEATRE ROYAL, HANLEY.
WANTED, Wanted, First-class Attractions, Aug. 11, Sept. 1, 8, 15, onwards.
Apply, Chas. Elphinstone.

HARROGATE AND SCARBOROUGH GRAND OPERA HOUSES.
WANTED, First-class Company (Musical preferred), May 5, 3 nights Harrogate, 3 nights Scarborough.
Apply, William Peacock, Theatre, Harrogate.

SCARBOROUGH GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, First-class Company (Musical preferred) or Variety Combination, May 19 (6 nights).
Apply, William Peacock, Theatre, Harrogate.

HARROGATE GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, First-class Company (Musical preferred) or Variety Combination, May 26 (6 nights).
Apply, William Peacock, Theatre, Harrogate.

KELLY'S THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions for weeks of May 19 and June 2. May 19 and June 2.
Wire or write to W. W. Kelly, New T.R., Birkenhead.

THEATRE ROYAL SHOTTON COLLIERY, SUNDERLAND. F. A. Taylor, Manager.
Wire, April 21.
WANTED, good Dramas, Pantos, Novel Attractions, or Stock, for Season, April 21, onwards.

WANTED, High-class Attractions, April 28. Tun. Wells, Ipswich, Fulham. May 5, Fulham, onwards. May 19, 26. Ipswich (weeks), June 2, 9.
Apply, H. W. Rowland, Coronet Theatre, W.

GRAND THEATRE, RHYL.
WANTED, Wanted, Big Attractions, May 15 (3), July 14, 21, Sept. 22.
Only vacant dates this year.
Address, Chas. M. Julian, Manager, The Cottage, Torrisholme, Morecambe.

EMPIRE PALACE, BARNSLEY.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Musical Comedies, and Combinations. All the big attractions visit the Empire, Barnsley.
Will Smithson, Manager.

GRAND THEATRE, RAWTENSTALL.
WANTED, Known, Vacant, April 28, May 5, 12 June 9, 16, also dates at Hyde, King's Lynn, Southend, Sheerness, and Lowestoft. B. Pareezer, Marina, Lowestoft.

COMPANIES WANTED.

SEVEN PROGRESSIVE THEATRES.
WANTED, High-class Companies.
CORONET THEATRE, LONDON, W. May 12, June 23, July, onwards.
FULHAM THEATRE, S.W. April 28, onwards.
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE. May 26, June 9, 16, 23 (3), 30.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS. June 2 16, 26 (3), 30, July dates.
PLEASURE GARDENS, FOLKESTONE. June 12 (3), July 7, 24 (3).
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS. April 28, May 26.
LYCEUM THEATRE, IPSWICH. April 28, May 19, 26, June 2, onwards.
Apply, H. W. Rowland, Coronet Theatre, W.

MORTON POWELL THEATRES.
WANTED, Wanted, Powerful Plays.
BRITANNIA THEATRE, LONDON. April 28, May 5, 12.
BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM. July 14, 21, 28.
QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH. April 28, May 5, 12.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, May 12, Whit week, July 1 to 16, 21, 22, 23, Sept. 22, onwards. J. J. Humphreys, Coliseum, Aberystwyth.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-class Companies for Aug. 4 (?), 11, 18, and onwards, with exceptions. Once or twice nightly.
Jas. Kiddie, Caen Villa, Highfield-road, Widnes.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Attractions, Musical Comedy or Drama, for May 19, June 9, June 23, July 14, July 28.
Wire or write to Leon Salberg, Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham.

STANLEY (DURHAM) ROYAL, LTD.
WANTED, good Attractions, May 5, 19, and on, with exceptions; open to negotiate with a responsible Manager to run Stock from June 2 for six or eight weeks, once nightly; two pieces per week preferred. All coms. to Mark H. Lindon.

BRIXTON THEATRE, S.W.
WANTED, Attraction, May 5, 19, 26, and on. Fredk. Melville, Lyceum Theatre, W.C.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD, E.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions, New to Stratford, May 19, 26, July 14, 21, 28, Aug. 4.

OPERETTA HOUSE, CLACTON-ON-SEA.
Only Vacant Dates, June 30 (3 nights), July 24 (3 nights), Sept. 8 (3 nights).
The following companies have been secured:—"Bunty Pulls the Strings," "Mrs. Dane's Defence," "The Liars," "The Little Damozel," Carl Hertz, "The Glad Eye," "Jelf's," "Dust of Egypt," "The Quaker Girl," "When Knights were Bold," "Witness for the Defence," "The Thief," "Milestones," "What Happened to Jones," "The Headmaster," "Ann," "The Gay Lord Quex," "Prisoner of Zenda," "The Son and Heir," "Looking for Trouble."
A. E. Abrahams, 73, Romford-road, Stratford, London, E.

REPERTORY THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, June 9, June 9, June 9.
First-class plays and comedies only considered.
Also June 23 vacant.
Wire or write to Mr. Basil Dean, Manager.

GRAND THEATRE, CROYDON.
Now Booking for next Autumn.
Only a few vacant dates.
WANTED, Good, Sound Attractions.
Apply to B. Blaiberg, 18, Ironmonger-lane, London, E.C.
or to Ernest Archer, Grand Theatre, Croydon.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, BELFAST.
ALEXANDRA THEATRE, BELFAST.
6.40. Twice Nightly. 9 o'clock.
Weekly Matinée Wednesday.
The most luxuriously furnished theatre in Ireland.
WANTED, Wanted, Unexpectedly Vacant, April 28 and May 12. April 28 and May 12.
Wire, Wire, Sept. 29, precede "The Christian." Nov. 3, on, till Dec. 15. Jan. 12, 19, 26, Big Pantomimes.
Wire for April 28.
J. Leicester Jackson, for the Alexandra Theatre Co. (Belfast) Ltd.

WANTED, Wanted, First-class Attractions for April 21, Theatre Royal, Swansea.
Apply, William Coutts, Theatre Royal, Swansea.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE, GRIMSBY.
WANTED, Companies for July 28, Aug. 11 (?), 18, 25, Sept. 1, 8, 15 (?).
Copy of bill and particulars to J. H. Curry, as above.

KING'S THEATRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, First-class Attractions and Vaudeville Combinations, May 26, onwards, with exceptions. Apply, A. B. and J. J. Wright.

OPERA HOUSE, WAKEFIELD.
WANTED, Really First-class Two-Nightly Attractions, April 28, May 5, May 19, onwards. Apply, Sherwood and Co.

WANTED, Known, Empress Theatre (late Skating Rink), Ilkeston, twice nightly, now in the height of popularity; vacant, Whit week. A good, reliable stock company can open June 2 for a month or longer. R. A. Brown.

THEATRE ROYAL, BRISTOL.
The Best Drama Date in the West.
WANTED, May 19, and a few later. Address, F. W. Carpenter.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Companies.
GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL (no dramas), Sept. 1, 22, Oct. 13, 27, Nov. 24, and Dec. 8.
OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON, Aug. 4, 11, 18, Sept. 1 and 22.
GRAND THEATRE, LANCASTER, Aug. 11, 25, Sept. 8, 15, Oct. 13.
Stanley Rogers, Theatre Royal, North Shields.

PIER PAVILION, SOUTHSEA.
WANTED, First-class Companies, July 7, Sept. 8.
Cert. or Share, with guarantee.
Full particulars to F. G. Robson, Manager.

WANTED, Big Attraction, twice nightly, May 5, Hippodrome, Birkenhead.
Address, E. Dottridge, 50, Union-st., Oldham.

GRAND THEATRE, PLYMOUTH.
Lessee and Manager, J. Langdon Lee.
WANTED, Strong Attraction, Musical or Dramatic, Whit Week, Twice nightly.

WANTED, Wanted, First-class Companies, for Aug. 4, 11, 18, and 25.
Apply, W. Roberts-Marshall, Gaiety Theatre, Manchester.

COMPANIES WANTED.

THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
WANTED, First-class Company for May 5. Unexpectedly vacant.
Address, Lawson Lambert, as above.

WANTED, Attraction for Whit week, Weymouth and Woolwich.
Wire, Charlton Mann, Adelphi Theatre.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales' Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for April 28 and May 19. Address, E. B. Goulden.

GRAND THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, Good Attraction Whit Monday, three nights.
Write or wire, Manager.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Theatres,
"The Diver's Luck," June 2, 23, 30.
"It's Never Too Late To Mend," June 2, 9.
"Why Woman Sins," May 19.
Andrew Emm, Empire Theatre, Holloway, N.

Alexandre Dumas' Masterpiece.
"MONTE CRISTO."
From the New Princes Theatre, W.C.
The entire production carried.
WANTED, Sept. 1, 8, Oct. 20, 27, Andrew Emm, Princes Theatre, W.C.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
for this Phenomenal Attraction,
weeks of June 9 and 23.
weeks of June 9 and 23.
Wire or write to
W. W. Kelly,
New T.R.,
Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres or Halls, May 12, on.
Big company. Full chorus.
Real negro specialities.
All the special scenery and printing.
Charles Harrington,
Dalston Theatre, London.
34, Queen's-road, Finsbury Park, N.

"EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, Theatres, May 12, June 16, 30, July 28, Aug. 4, 11, 3 nights, Aug. 27, 28, 29 (between Cardigan and Newport, Sept. 22, 29, Oct. 13, and on, with exceptions.
J. Pitt Hardacre.
Prince of Wales' Theatre, Nuneaton.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S No. 1 CO.
WANTED, First-class Theatres for above, July 7, 14, 21, Seaside; Sept. 1, 15, 22, 29, North and onwards. Letters, Stafford, Bishopsdale, Biddenden, Kent.

"THE 10.30 DOWN EXPRESS."
WANTED, Wanted, May 19, between Sheerness and the Elephant.
Horace Stanley.
To-day, Empire, Cannock. Next, Grand, Plymouth.

"DIANA OF DOBSON'S."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Autumn, for the entire actual Kingsway Theatre Production
"DIANA OF DOBSON'S."
Now in 45th week of tour.
Bookings include all leading London Suburban and Provincial Theatres.
H. V. Neilson,
Nordrach, Blagdon, Bristol.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"DEADWOOD DICK."
"DEADWOOD DICK."
"DEADWOOD DICK."
Vacant Aug. 4, 18, Sept. 8, 29.
Aug. 4, 18, Sept. 8, 29.
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
"THE TYRANT."
Vacant Aug. 4, 11, Sept. 1, 15, 22.
Aug. 4, 11, Sept. 1, 15, 22.
"WHEN WOMAN HATES."
"WHEN WOMAN HATES."
"WHEN WOMAN HATES."
WANTED, Aug. 18, 25, Oct. 6, 13, 20.
Fred Bulmer,
Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, London, W.

"SILVER KING" CO.
Directors, Polini and Melford.
WANTED, Dates, Sept. 29, Oct. 13, 20, Nov. 3; also Christmas Week. Dates invited for Spring, 1914. Address, G. M. Polini, 93, Penge-road, London, S.E.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN,"
and
"NANA, THE RAGE OF PARIS."
WANTED, May 5 and 12.
Once or twice nightly.
Easily beating last visit at Plymouth.
Mr. Langdon Lee said, on Monday:
"Am delighted with your opening and with your show.
I should be glad to get forty of equal merit every year.
A magnificent Whitsuntide attraction.
"Nana" played on Friday
Makes Monday repeat itself.
Three notable Whit week triumphs.
T.R., Sheffield; Prince's, Bradford; Grand, Wolverhampton.
Each theatre well filled the entire week.
Loie Esmond. To-day, Grand, Plymouth (third visit. April 24, Grand, Brighton (third to Brighton).

"THE WALLS OF JERICHO."
"THE WALLS OF JERICHO."
Entire production carried.
Twice nightly if required.
"THE LION AND THE MOUSE."
"THE LION AND THE MOUSE."
From the Duke of York's Theatre.
WANTED, April 28, between Swansea and Leeds, May 12, 19.
Wire, Norris,
T.R., Merthyr, to-day; then T.R., Swansea.

"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST."
WANTED, April 28, on. Booked King's, Wimbledon, Marlborough, Woolwich, Crystal Palace, T.R., Plymouth, Weymouth, Folkestone, D.P., Eastbourne, Maidstone, Guildford, &c. Weathersby's Agency, 3, Bedford-st., W.C.

"A SOLDIER AND A MAN."
WANTED, May 5, on, to follow Wimbledon. Weathersby's Agency, 3, Bedford-st., W.C.

WANTED, Summer and Autumn Dates, "HIS HOUSE IN ORDER."
Whit week vacant, June 2, on. Bookings include Eastbourne, Hastings, Gt. Yarmouth, Lowestoft.
Frank Fenton,
This, Lyceum, Ipswich; next, New, Cambridge.

WANTED, for the Unique Attraction, "The Slave Girl," now doing enormous business, good Theatres, Sept. 22, Oct. 6, Nov. 17, 24, Dec. 1.
Address, T. E. Ward, Palace, Preston.

No. 1 "ANN." FROM CRITERION THEATRE.
WANTED, May 5 (3 nights), 19, Aug. 4.
Haldane Crichton, West Pier, Brighton.

"THE TIDE."
"THE TIDE."
The remarkable play in 3 Acts, by B. Macdonald Hastings, author of "The New Sin," &c.
Original Queen's Theatre production carried.
Miss Stella Gastelle as Felicity Scarth,
Supported by Powerful West-End Company.
WANTED, Immediate Dates, and onward.
Herbert Ralland, 32, Lisle-street, W.C.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Theatres.

ARTHUR HINTON AND LEILA ZILLWOOD COMPANIES.

The Original and Best.
A Column of Winners.
Good Wine Needs no Bush.

"ALLAH'S ORCHARD."
"ALLAH'S ORCHARD."
By Miss Emma Litchfield.

WANTED, BIG THEATRES,
WANTED, BIG THEATRES,
WANTED, BIG THEATRES

May 19,
May 19,
May 19,

June 2, 9, 16, and 23,
June 2, 9, 16, and 23,
June 2, 9, 16, and 23,

July 7,
July 7,
July 7.

Only Vacant Autumn Date,
Only Vacant Autumn Date,
Sept. 22,
Sept. 22,
Sept. 22,
The Only Autumn Date.
The Only Autumn Date.

The Ideal Twice-Nightly Attraction.
Costumes, Scenery, and General Mounting Unsurpassed.
Full London Chorus.
Musical Director.

The greatest success of the four successes advertised in this column, therefore the biggest success now on the road.

Managers at every theatre visited loud in its praise.

At no theatre visited has a manager expressed regret at booking this enormous success.

The confidence placed in a Hinton and Zillwood production by Resident Managers as a big drawing card more than justified by the returns for this show.

Booked and Re-booked at all the leading dramatic theatres.

Re Dates,
ARTHUR HINTON,
Grand Theatre, Blackpool.

"HIS INDIAN WIFE."
"HIS INDIAN WIFE."
By Miss Emma Litchfield.

WANTED THEATRES,
WANTED THEATRES,
WANTED THEATRES,

April 21,
April 21,
April 21,

May 5, 26,
May 5, 26,
May 5, 26,

July 7, 14, 28,
July 7, 14, 28,
July 7, 14, 28,

Aug. 4, Aug. 4, Aug. 4,
Aug. 4, Aug. 4, Aug. 4,
Aug. 4, Aug. 4, Aug. 4,

Aug. 18,
Aug. 18,
Aug. 18,

Oct. 6,
Oct. 6,
Oct. 6,

Nov. 24,
Nov. 24,
Nov. 24,

and onwards.
and onwards.
and onwards.

"KING OF THE GIPSIES."
"KING OF THE GIPSIES."
By Miss Emma Litchfield.

WANTED, THEATRES,
WANTED, THEATRES,
WANTED, THEATRES,

Aug. 4
Aug. 4,
Aug. 4,

Sept. 1, 15, 22,
Sept. 1, 15, 22,
Sept. 1, 15, 22,

Dec. 15, 22.
Dec. 15, 22.
Dec. 15, 22.

"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR."
By Miss Emma Litchfield.

Clear Stage only required.

Wanted,
Wanted,
Wanted,

Aug. 4 and 18,
Aug. 4 and 18,
Aug. 4 and 18,

Sept. 15 and 22,
Sept. 15 and 22,
Sept. 15 and 22,

Nov. 3, 10, 24,
Nov. 3, 10, 24,
Nov. 3, 10, 24,

and various onwards.
and various onwards.
and various onwards.

If you see it in an Hinton and Zillwood advert., it is so.

Re Dates,
Mr. G. MORETON WILLIAMS,
Holmdene, 3, River Bank, Hampton Court.
Telephone: 1,732, Kingston-on-Thames.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
"BROUGHT TO RUIN,"
August.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"GIRL WITHOUT A HOME."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
This Strong Attraction,
Aug. 4, 11, 18.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
This Powerful Play,
May 12, 19.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
May 19, 26.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
May 5, 12, 19.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

WANTED, First-class Theatres,
"PASSERS-BY,"
Sept. 29, Oct. 6, 30 (5 nights), Nov. 3, 17.
North and Midland.
"THE BALKAN PRINCESS,"
with actual London Production,
Sept. 1.
Lancs. or Yorks.
"THE ARCADIANS,"
Sept. 22 (6 nights), 29 (3 nights), (South or Midlands),
Nov. 6, 13, 20
(three nights each date),
North or Midland.
Apply, Leslie Moreton,
1 and 2, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

WANTED, April 28 and on, for FREDERIC BAUGH AND FRED MOULE'S Greatest of all Melodramas.
An Original Drama with an Up-to-date Title,
"THE WHITE SLAVE TRAFFIC."
All records broken at Sadler's Wells, Foresters', Palace, Bow. See this play at the Brixton Theatre this week. Palace Theatre, Battersea, Monday, April 21. Many thanks to Mr. Frederick Melville, for offer of return to Brixton on May 5. Unable to accept owing to being booked at Elephant and Castle that date.

Three men went out one summer night;
No care had they, nor aim.
They dined, they drank. Ere we go home
We'll have, they said, "a game."

Three girls began that summer night
A life of endless shame;
They went thro' drink, disease and death
As swift as racing flame.

Homeless, lawless, foul they died;
Rich, loved, and praised the men;
But when they meet before their God
And Justice speaks—what then?
—The Rev. Stopford Brooke.

For dates,
ARTHUR JEFFERSON,
132, Charing Cross-road.
Telegrams, "Aitenev," London.
'Phone: 1480 Regent.
Or, FRED BAUGH, Sadler's Wells Theatre.
Telegrams: Stageyness, London.
'Phone: 5890 Central.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
April 28. April 28.
(Follow Salford).
May 19. May 19.
(Near London.)
Arthur Shirley's
Greatest Melodrama.
"THE STEPMOTHER."
The Best-acted Drama now Touring.
For dates,
FREDERIC BAUGH.
Sadler's Wells Theatre,
London.
Telegrams: Stageyness, London.
'Phone: 5890 Central.

"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
WANTED, Aug. 4, Sept. 1, 8, 22, Oct. 6, 13, 27, and on, also Xmas and New Year.
A Graphic Show.
Now booking its fourth year at recognised theatres.

"IN A MAN'S POWER."
Wanted, May 26, June 9, July 21, and Aug. 4.
J. Forbes Knowles, T.R., Sunderland.

MR. & MRS. HARRY LYNDON'S CO'S.
"THE PET OF THE RANCH."
"THE PET OF THE RANCH."
"THE PET OF THE RANCH."
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
WANTED, May 5, 12, and on, for this great play. Guaranteed the finest mounted, dressed, and played drama on the road. An intense domestic story, appealing to all classes. Set amidst the picturesque surroundings of California.
Mr. and Mrs. Lyndon, who are the producers, have seen to it that nothing is lacking in scenic effect. There is plenty of humour in the acting. The incidents are all very exciting. — "Liverpool Express."
Harry Lyndon,
Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton.
(Two weeks.)

WANTED, May 12 (follow Winter Gardens, New Brighton),
May 19 and 26, precede Weymouth,
June 9, 16, 23, precede G.T., Hull, &c.
Miss Mabel Mannering in
"THE LIARS," "MRS. DANE'S DEFENCE."
Also
"AUGUSTUS IN SEARCH OF A FATHER."
By Harold Chopin.
Now playing at the Savoy Theatre.
"Torquay Times" says: With the exception of the visit of Mr. Forbes-Robertson and company, the acting at the Theatre Royal this week is the best that has been seen for many months.
Communications, Millar Anderson.
This, T.R., Swansea; next, G. T., Wolverhampton.

HERBERT FULLER'S PLAYS AND TOURS.
"AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITER."
WANTED, Theatres. Wire, May 5, June 2, 9, 16, 23. Wire for May 5, June 2, 9, 16, 23.
"MOTHERLESS."
June 16, 23, July 21, 28, Aug. 4, 11, 25, &c.
"DICK WHITTINGTON."
Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26, &c. Lancs. or Yorkshire preferred. Cast of 40 to 50. Gorgeous production.
E.T., Hednesford. Next, T.R., Leicester (R.).

"THE OLD FOLKS AT HOME."
A perfect production. Refer any theatre visited.
WANTED, Aug. 4 (North), Oct. 6.
Lloyd and Bown, Palace Theatre, Ramsgate.

"MAN TO MAN."
EDWARD LLOYD AND CLIFFORD BOWN'S CO.
WANTED, July 7 (South, or London), Sept. 8.
Edward Lloyd, Palace Theatre, Ramsgate.

MR. HARRY BRISTOW and MAY FORDE'S
"I DEFY THE WORLD."
WANTED, May 12, June 16, 23, 30. Harry Bristow, Palace Theatre, Rochdale.

"THE MAJOR."
"MISS PLASTER—OF PARIS."
WANTED, Good Theatres, June 16 and 23, Aug. 4, 11.
Henry L. Osmond, Palace, Gloucester.

WANTED, Theatres, "The Cowboy's Revenge," vac. May 26 (follow Leeds), June 2 (precede Manchester), Aug. 4 (precede Prince's, Bradford), few onwards.
Wilson Benge, Hippodrome, Sheerness-on-Sea.

THEATRES WANTED.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.
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MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COS.

THE PRAIRIE OUTLAW.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
Two Companies on Tour: Both of equal strength.
This play has far surpassed all expectations.
The Scenery guaranteed most beautiful.
The finest Indian and Ranch Dresses ever toured.
Fast Booking Autumn Both Companies.
North Company,
Vacant Aug. 11, 18, Oct. 27, Xmas.
South Company,
Vacant Aug. 11, 18, Dec. 8, Xmas.

THE WILD GIRL OF THE FOREST.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
Few Autumn Dates.
All New Scenery and Costumes on order for Autumn Tour.
Special Cast being engaged.

WAS SHE TO BLAME?

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
Vacant, May 26, July 7, few Autumn.

HER PATH OF SORROW.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
Vacant May 26, July 7, Aug. 18, Sept. 1.
Fast Booking Autumn.
This play being sent out with very Special Company and scenery, and will be a great Moneymaker.

A NEW PRODUCTION.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
An Australian piece. Title to be known later.
Produced at Junction, Manchester, Aug. 18, with all Mr. Broadhead's Theatres to follow. This play will be the Tenth Production with Mr. Broadhead. This speaks for itself. Thanks to Mr. Broadhead, also Mr. Coulson (South Shields), Mr. Rowe (Palace, Newcastle), Mr. Batty (Stockton) for contracts.
Only vacant dates, Nov. 10, 17, Dec. 8.
Xmas and New Year settled.

THE BOY DETECTIVE.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
Mr. and Mrs. Lyndon produce same Whit week, King's, Longsight,
and it will be the Greatest Success they have toured.

THE COLLIER'S LASS.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
Absolutely guaranteed to be the greatest success on the road to-day.
Two Companies on tour and doing phenomenal business.
Few Dates vacant this Autumn.
Toured by J. Newton Cowling.

HER SECRET LOVER.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
Produced four years ago, and has been one of the best moneymakers ever toured.
Fast Booking a good Summer Tour.
Apply, for dates, J. Newton Cowling.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.

Lessee, F. G. Kimberley.
The popular Dramatic House of the Town. A First-class Theatre. Business improving yearly.
Vacant, May 12, Aug. 25, Dec. 15.

PLAYS TO LET FOR STOCK.

"WHY DID SHE RUN AWAY?"
"HER SECRET LOVER" (certain towns).
"THE POWER OF THE KING."
"A SOLDIER'S HONOUR,"
"A SISTER'S SIN."
All by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS,"
By Walter Howard.

AUSTRALIAN AND FOREIGN RIGHTS TO SELL OF SEVERAL PIECES.

Managers, don't be afraid to book Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's Plays.
They are doing the business.
Refer! Refer!
Write,
F. G. KIMBERLEY,
THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.

THEATRES WANTED.

GORE OUSELEY'S PRODUCTIONS.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates.
"AUTUMN MANŒUVRES."
Oct. 6, and various other vacancies.
GORE OUSELEY, 50, Rupert-street, W.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates.
"THE CINGALEE."
June 5 (3 nights), and 9 (week).
GORE OUSELEY, 50, Rupert-street, W.

"ANN."
MADGE CRICHTON IN THE TITLE-ROLE.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates.
GORE OUSELEY, 50, Rupert-street, W., or
HALDANE CRICHTON, 4, Park-place, S.W.

"THE GOLD DIGGERS;
OR, THE BROKEN TRAIL."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates.
Aug. 4 and onwards.
GORE OUSELEY, 50, Rupert-street, W.
'Phone, Regent 2286. Wires, "Ouseley, London."
E. P. MORGAN, General Manager.

All comms.,
P. S., 31, Clifford-street, Oxford-road, Manchester.

H. MONTAGUE ASHLEY and CAMPBELL GOLDSMID'S COS.
"WITH EDGED TOOLS."
WANTED, Aug. 11 (follow Kelly's, Liverpool).
Sept. 29 (follow Grand, Glasgow).
Oct. 20, 27 (S. Wales).
Nov 3 (precede Stratford), Dec. 1, 8.
"UNDER THE CANOPY."
By J. James Hewson.
The Great Russo-Jewish Play.
Production, Aug. 25,
LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.
Entire Production Carried. Magnificent New Scenery and Costumes. Printing by David Allen's, 7 by 6 Sheets, 4 by 12, 2 by 18.
Wanted, Sept. 1, 15, 29 (S. Wales), Oct. 13, 20, 27, Nov. 10 (follow Stratford), 17, 24.
Note Artistes engaged.
MAUD MORTON POWELL, Muriel Haydn, Pattie Groves, Winnie Donovan, Fred Emery, Murray Yorke, Russell Norrie, Max Copland, Jack G. Maine, Walter Hicks, and CAMPBELL GOLDSMID.

"A BLIND GIRL'S LOVE" CO.
WANTED, May 19 26, June 16.
May 19, 26, June 16.
Once or twice nightly.

"BONNIE MARY" CO.
Autumn Tour.
Aug. 4, Theatre Royal, Bury.
Aug. 11, Vacant.
Aug. 18, Vacant.
Aug. 25, Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham.
Sept. 1, Theatre Royal, Smethwick.
Sept. 8, Theatre Royal, Aston.
Sept. 15, Grand Theatre, Brighton.
Sept. 22, Lyric, Hammersmith.
Sept. 29, Elephant and Castle.
Oct. 6, Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth.
Oct. 13, Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield.
Oct. 20, Theatre Royal, Castleford.
Oct. 27, Alexandra Theatre, Hull.
Nov. 3, Pavilion Theatre, Morley.
Nov. 10 Palace Theatre, Newcastle.
Nov. 17 Grand, West Hartlepool.
Nov. 24, King's Theatre, Gateshead.
WANTED, Big Theatre for Xmas.
WANTED, Big Theatre for Xmas.
WANTED, Big Theatre for Xmas.
Also various Spring Dates.
Once or twice nightly.

"ONE LIFE, ONE LOVE" CO.
WANTED, May 5.
May 5.
May 5.
Twice nightly only.
Address, Charles Locke, Theatre Royal, Aston.

"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
"THE IDOL OF PARIS."
WANTED, First-class Theatres or Halls,
May 12,
May 12,
May 19,
May 19,
June 9, 16, 23, July 7, 14, and on.
A Record Success everywhere.
As a twice-nightly attraction, par excellence.
Wire for May 12, 19. Wire.
James Bell,
T.R., Darlington.

"A GIRL'S GOOD LUCK.
"A GIRL'S GOOD LUCK.
"A GIRL'S GOOD LUCK.
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Aug. 4, 11,
Sept. 1, 8, 15, 22.
Oct. 6, Nov. 3, 24.
E. L. Garside, Theatre Royal, Scarboro'.

"THE HEADMASTER."
WANTED, July 7, Aug. 4, Sept. 22, Nov 3.
Wentworth Croke and Herbert Sleath's Co.
Charles Darrell in new drama,
"IN A MAN'S GRIP."
Wanted, Aug. 18, Sept. 1, 8, Oct. 20, Nov. 3,
Herbert Sleath's Co.,
"A WHITE MAN."
Wanted, Aug. 4, only vacant date.
Herbert Sleath's Co.,
"TRAFALGAR."
An Entirely New Production.
Including Herbert Sleath and Wm. F. Grant.
Wanted, four immediate vacant suburban dates.
Apply Wentworth Croke, 47, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."
"NANA, THE RAGE OF PARIS."
"SAPHO," "SAPHO."
First-class Company, including the Greatest of all Dramatic Actresses, the Charming Miss Loie Esmond. Miss Loie Esmond.
WANTED, first-class Theatres and Halls, share or certainty.—Joe Davies, Theatrical Agent, Nottingham.

LEONARD AND FRENCH PRESENT
"THE GIRL OF MY HEART."
WANTED, Known, Whit, only vacant date till Autumn.
Cast includes Mrs. Bennett, Jack Haddon, Laura Dyson, and Herbert Leonard.
"ALONE IN THE MERCILESS WORLD."
"A GIRL FROM ARIZONA."
Summer onwards.
SHAKESPEAREAN REPERTOIRE in Autumn.
To-day, St. Helens. Next, Kelly's, Liverpool.

MR. NORMAN V. NORMAN'S COMPANIES.
"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
WANTED, Wanted, Theatres.
Vacant dates,
May 19 and 26.
Adelphi Hotel, W.C.

"THE MUMMY AND THE HUMMING BIRD."
WANTED, May 15, 16, 17, June 2 and 9 (South), for this fine play.
Hamilton Stewart, T.R., Middlesboro'.

FRANK BERTRAM'S CO.
"THROUGH DEATH VALLEY."
WANTED, Good Theatres for Christmas and New Year weeks.
Bertram, 5, Gilmore-road, Lewisham, S.E

"THE COTTON SPINNER."
WANTED, good Theatres, North, June 9, 16.
An ideal twice-nightly Attraction
Mounted upon a Magnificent Scale.
Also possible vacant July 7
E. Vivian Edmonds,
To-day, Hippodrome, Birkenhead
Monday, Metropole, Bootle.

THEATRES WANTED.

CECILE BARCLAY
and
RUPERT LISTER,
in
"THE TURNING POINT."
"THE TURNING POINT."
"THE TURNING POINT."
"THE TURNING POINT."
"THE TURNING POINT."
"THE TURNING POINT."

WANTED, Wanted, Known,
Vacant, July 28 (?), Aug. 4, 11 (?), 18, Sept. 8, 29.
Vacant, July 28 (?), Aug. 4, 11 (?), 18, Sept. 8, 29.
Vacant, July 28 (?), Aug. 4, 11 (?), 18, Sept. 8, 29.
Vacant, July 28 (?), Aug. 4, 11 (?), 18, Sept. 8, 29.
Vacant, July 28 (?), Aug. 4, 11 (?), 18, Sept. 8, 29.
Vacant, July 28 (?), Aug. 4, 11 (?), 18, Sept. 8, 29.

RUPERT LISTER.
April 21, Wimbledon. April 28, Kennington.

WANTED, Theatres and Halls on sharing terms, for Roland Carr's powerful combination, including the original Rag-time Eight. The very last word in rag-time. Roland Carr, 39, Shepherd's Bush-road, London, W.

ARTISTES WANTED.

"A POLICEMAN AND A MAN."
WANTED, for three weeks certain, probably longer, a recognised Leading Lady; also a clever Child Actress, must be over 14, but look younger; and a smart Young Man for a small Juvenile Part and Assist. Stage Man.; rehearse London Wednesday. Photos and fullest particulars to Stuart Cleveland, 127, Brixton-rd., London, S.W.

WANTED, for Twice-nightly Stock, rehearse May 19 week. First-class Leading Juvenile Man. Photo. references, and all particulars to T. E. Ward, Palace, Preston.

WANTED, Artistes, Mr. Bulmer's Enterprises. Wanted, Star Leading Lady. Photo, terms, refs. Fred Bulmer, Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-st., London, W.

WANTED, twice-nightly Stock; rehearse May 12: Heavy Gentleman, Low Comedian, Juvenile Lady, Chambermaid. Terms, height, Mark Blow. New Theatre, Cardiff.

WANTED, First-class Soprano, also good Pianist; good reader, able to memorise and transpose; both must be of smart appearance. Apply, letter only, Stephen Fitzgerald, 7, James-st., Paddington.

MR. AND MRS. HARRY LYNDON'S COS.
WANTED, tall, robust Leading Man, capable of power and pathos; also tall, powerful, responsible man to Double. All particulars,
Harry Lyndon.
Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton.

"THE FACE AT THE WINDOW."
WANTED, rehearse Thursday, Portsmouth, Juvenile Man. Apply, photo., height (actual), lowest terms, Ussher, P.T., Portsmouth.

WANTED, two Character Actors, height not less than 5ft. 10in., two weeks, May 12 and 26. Photos, terms, age, and height, Actor, 31, Canonbury-road, London, N.

WANTED, Powerful Baritone for Operatic Act; he able to play Piano preferred. Apply, by letter only, to Jean Monté, 13, Nevern-place, Earl's Court.

WANTED, a first-class Tenor; one experienced in Italian opera; must be a good actor. State age, height, salary. Box 4,609, "The Era."

WANTED, for Serio-Comic Operetta, Tenor, light, easy voice; also Basso; stage experience. Particulars, write "Milane," Box 3,234, Willings, 125, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Principals for Autumn Musical Comedy Tour. Terms and particulars to Brooks's Agency,
36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Known, well-known Theatrical Manager, conducting Repertory Season in town near London, is willing to receive talented Amateur (lady or gentleman) desirous of obtaining professional experience. Terms to capable applicant extremely low. Also vacancy for gentleman desirous of studying Theatrical Business Management. Apply, with full particulars,
Box 4,583, "The Era."

MR. AND MRS. GORDON.
WANTED, to open immediately, for London and Abroad, Refined, Smart, and Pretty Girls, Good Dancers.
Call, with practice dress, Thursday 5—6, Friday and Saturday 3—5. Girls out of town write and send photo. Those who wrote last week to Southfields call Chandos Hall, 21A, Maiden-lane, Strand, W.C. Long engagements for suitable girls.

WANTED, for immediate engagement in Australia, First-class Ballet Dancers (Ladies), Russian style. Apply, immediately, Denton and Art, 56, Whitcomb-street, Leicester-square, W.C.

WANTED, Known, Lessons in Singing, Pianoforte, Accompaniment, Coaching, Musical Comedy, &c.; evening lessons given; rapid progress assured; many years' varied experience; pupils visited. M. Taylor, 18, Foley-street, W.

WANTED, Girls for Descriptive Dancing. Special terms for one year's training. Lessons, town or Golders Green. Letters only. Violet Furnivall, Bumble Combe, North End-road, Hampstead.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, prepossessing young Lady for special position. Required: A good education, experience in character work, and capable of writing bright, interesting reports for newspaper. State age, experience, and salary required,
Box 4,581, "The Era."

WANTED, Manager for a new Picture Palace in the North; must be well acquainted with the latest films; comfortable engagement to steady and reliable man. References and full particulars to Box 4,607, c/o "The Era."

WANTED, Smart Advertising Manager; also to assist in front of house. Must be of good appearance, young, and energetic. Write at once, stating experience, references, and salary required,
to A. E. BARNES,
Empire, Sunderland.

WANTED, practical Billposter; permanent situation for reliable man. Apply, stating age, wages required, and where last employed. Billposting Co., 6, Albert-street, Northampton.

WANTED, Competent Stage Mechanic, to travel. Write, with full particulars, and stating lowest salary in first letter, to Box 4,604, "The Era."

WANTED immediately, Smart Young Man, to take Small Part and Stage Manage; must be tall. Photos and refs.,
T. Y. Johnson.
Hippodrome, Wigan.

WANTED, Lady Typist and Shorthand Writer; thoroughly versed in theatrical and music hall matters. Apply, Sherwood and Co., Opera House, Wakefield.

WANTED, Clerk, Shorthand, Typist and Book-keeper, for Theatrical Manager's office.
State experience, salary, &c.,
Pickard, Glasgow.

WANTED, smart Man and Wife, as caretakers and cleaners, not afraid of work, for a new picture palace in the North. References and wages required to Box 4,606, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Re-engagement, by practical Variety Stage Manager; a man who understands his business; now working West-End Theatre. Box 4,260, "The Era."

WANTED, by experienced Manager, Position in Cinema, Theatre, Varieties, Exhibition, or Pier Pavilion; good organiser; used to control large staff; good correspondent and accountant; fluent French; excellent references; at liberty; moderate salary. Letters to Manager, 1, Woodlands-road, Upper Norwood, London, S.E.

MUSIC HALL OR PICTURES.
WANTED, by experienced man, Managership; disengaged; has held necessary licences; salary moderate. D., 49, Winter-rd., Southsea.

WANTED, Engagement, by Advance Agent (first class), Stage Management, or useful capacity; experienced; highest London references. George Leybourne, 30, Drayton-park, Highbury.

WANTED, by London Music Hall Manager, change; London or provinces; moderate salary.
Box 4,599, "The Era."

WANTED, by Young Gentleman. Good Address, Old Public School and 'Varsity Man, Appointment, London Theatre, Music Hall, or Agency; thoroughly experienced, Business, Stage, Advertising, and Press Management, accountancy and secretarial work. Box 4,559, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, disengaged, April 28, Master Carpenter; small parts; joint if required; long experience; highest references. Fred Henshaw, Grand Theatre, Fulham.

WANTED, Engagement, Rudolph Simms, Props.; tour or resident; small parts; dis. April 28. April 21, Grand, Fulham.

WANTED, Known, well-educated Young Man, 29, seeks position as Private Secretary to Lady or Gentleman. Expert in accounts and secretarial work. Apply, Box 4,512, "The Era."

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Conductor and an Orchestra of about 6 or 8 performers for summer season, Tagg's Island (à la café chantant). Full particulars and terms to
Fred Karno, 28 Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, Smart Pianist-Conductor, compose and arrange; long tour Theatres; rehearse, Wednesday. Lowest terms, &c., Grahame, 2, Ordnance-terrace, Chatham.

WANTED, First-class Leader, First Violins, Viola, 'Cellist, and Tympanist (D. Drums, &c.), open May 12, 20 weeks, seaside. State terms, references, &c., to P. Goffin, 1, Rockcliffe, Whitley Bay.

WANTED, Lady Violinist (leader); also 'Cellist immediately for pictures at coast town; must be experienced in orchestral work; good salary. Box 4,597, "The Era."

WANTED, immediately Ladies; experienced Violiniste (Leader) and Pianiste; permanency; London. Write 352, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Leader (lady), to start April 25; only first-class players need apply; pictures and concert work; terms, £2 5s. per week. Box 4,602, "The Era."

WANTED, first-class, experienced Leader, First Violin, Viola, 'Cello, Bass, Clarinet, Solo Cornet, Pianist, for Concert Orchestra for seaside from June to September; state age and lowest terms; only steady, reliable players apply. Box 4,592, "The Era."

WANTED, to commence May 10, Leader and First Violin, also Solo Clarinet; must be good performers.
A. Collinson, Pier Orchestra, Cleethorpes.

COUTTS' CIRCUIT. SWANSEA AND DISTRICT.
WANTED, MUSICIANS,
1st Violin, 'Cello, and Clarinet,
WANTED, to open for permanent orchestra on Monday, April 28. Kindly state age, experience, recent references, and salary required. William Coutts, Theatre Royal Swansea.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, experienced First Violin, used to Varieties, to open Monday next. Wire, terms and references, T. Allan Edwardes.

WANTED, 1st Violin, Double Bass, Flute, Clarinet, Trombone, and Drums, for four months' tour from June. State all particulars to Box 4,601, "The Era."

WANTED, April 28, Ladies, good Violinist and 'Cellist; pictures; North of England. Lowest terms, refs., Conductress, 64, Langham-road, Blackburn.

WANTED, First-class Violinist, also Pianist-Organist; must be good sight reader. Aply, G. A. Bailey, Musical-Director, 8, Garway-road, Westbourne Grove, W.

WANTED, for hotel and restaurant in Bath, first-class male Violinist and 'Cellist for trio; good readers and soloists essential; four hours daily; no Sunday work. Write lowest terms to "D.," 5, Richardson-avenue, Combe Down, Bath.

WANTED, Violinist, to Combine Piano, for Pictures and Variety. Continuous Performance. State lowest terms, M. D., Electric Theatre, Norwich.

WANTED, Violinist, 'Cellist, and Pianist, for Hotel Band. Must be thoroughly experienced and used to Continental style of playing, soloists. References, Box 4,603, "The Era."

WANTED, Wanted, First-class Violinists, 'Cellist, and Pianist, from July 1.
Season. Hotel. References and age to
F. H. Jepson, The Palace, Blackpool.

WANTED, two competent Violinists for Pictures and Variety; must be used to business; 27s. 6d. weekly, Union rate. Theatre Royal, Attercliffe, Sheffield.

WANTED, Solo Violinists, Pianists, 'Cellists, and Contrabassists, to register for Messrs. C. W. and F. N. Black's Orchestras (Atlantic Liners, Picture, and First-class Hotels).
Applicants required to attend audition in Liverpool or London. State age, experience, and give two responsible references for personal character. Apply by letter, 14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Cornet, to join at once. Lord John Sanger's Circus; terms, 32s. 6d. per week. Address, Bandmaster, Sanger's Circus, Monday, Pontydowe, S. Wales; Tuesday, Ammanford; Wednesday, Carmarthen.

KING'S THEATRE, GREENOCK.
WANTED, to join Monday, April 28, First-class Cornet. Lowest terms and references to Mr. Green, Mus. Director.

SEDGWICK SCENIC JUNGLE. ON TOUR.
WANTED, Solo Cornet, Trombone, and Double Drums; 30s. per week. Sat., Clun; Mon., Knighton; Tues., Presteign; Wed., Kington, Radnorshire.

WANTED, Double Bass, ten weeks, at Filey, commencing June 30; 3½ hours. Lowest terms, refs., Sinclair, 30, Empire-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, at once, for the Hull City Police Military Band, Tenor, Trombone, Euphonium, and E flat Bass Players; must read Bass Clef; height 5ft. 9in. bare feet; age up to 26. Only good players need apply to Chief Constable, Hull.

WANTED, First-class 'Cello, for Pictures (evenings only); three hours daily; open at once. Age, terms, refs., to M. Gale, Musical-Director, Alhambra, Northgate, Darlington.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Flute, Clarinet, and 'Cello. Write, stating age, terms, and refs., to W. Oskar (Conductor), Albert Hall, Stanley S.O., Durham.

WANTED, Flute and Piccolo, for 20 weeks, from May 5; Union terms.
Add., Bolgére, Her Majesty's Theatre, Carlisle.

WANTED, Flute and Piccolo Player, to open April 28; must understand Variety Business. Apply, stating full particulars, D. J. Clarke, Argyle Theatre, Birkenhead.

WANTED, experienced Pianist, open April 28; one able to play to and humour pictures and memorise; also to play with orchestra; twice nightly; other instruments also write in. Lowest terms, &c., to Chas. W. Leggett, N.F.P.M., Victoria Picture Palace, Chesterfield.

WANTED, for Pictures and Variety, Pianist. 'Cello, Clarinet, and Tymps; must have sound knowledge of Classical and Light Repertoire, also of Varieties. Apply, giving full particulars of experience, age, salary, &c., to
Musical-Director, King's Hall, Dover.

WANTED, Pianist, for Publisher's Office, able to play, transpose, and improvise at sight. Apply, in first place, by letter, with full particulars and lowest terms, to Box 4,596, "The Era."

WANTED, Pianist for Hotel, Seaside. Must be experienced. Apply
Tina, 11, North-villas, Camden-square, N.W.

WANTED, for Whit week, experienced Pianist for Ladies' Orchestra; also 'Cellist, for hotel work. State lowest terms, live out, Box 4,591, "The Era."

WANTED, for Palace Theatre, Durham, Good Drummer. Apply, full particulars,
John H. Hodgson, Musical-Director.

WANTED, Wanted, Lady Instrumentalist. Must be good artistes; also Wind Players. Dorothea Vincent, Palace Theatre, Luton.

WANTED, for Ladies' Bands, exceptional Performers, from Whit Monday and Summer Season. Ashley Reale and Co., Walcot Cottage, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Musicians, before accepting engagements at Newcastle-on-Tyne, Whitley Bay, and Tynemouth, to communicate with A. Stuart, 35, Grainger-st. East, Newcastle-on-Tyne; South Shields and North Shields, W. Ellis, 48, Mowbray-rd., S. Shields; Roker and Sunderland, J. Murgatroyd, 103, Ward-st., Sunderland.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Musical Director, First-class Offers, Theatre, Music Hall, or Picture Palace, with full Orchestra; 15 years' experience; young; smart with quick programmes; steady, reliable, and gentlemanly; excellent references and Press notices; extensive modern repertoire; reliable Musicians Provided if desired; only first-class appointment entertained. Box 4,610, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Theo Klee, Mus.-Dir. or Violin, Liberty; thoroughly experienced; variety preferred; good refs. Klee, International Hotel, Londonderry.

WANTED, Engagement by a thoroughly experienced Musical-Director (pianist and Violinist); extensive library; very highest references. Address, Box 4,600, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, M.D. (Violinist), at liberty; young, good Theatrical and Variety experience; large library. For refs., Wayt, 24A, Cairns-street, Etruria, Hanley.

WANTED, Engagement by Conductor (Pianist and Violinist); good refs., modern library, thoroughly reliable and experienced; any business; disengaged, April 26. Box 4,558, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Leader, Cornet; Circus; tenting; good repertoire of music.
H. James, 15, Lower Drayton-place, Croydon, Surrey.

WANTED, Known, J. da Gama, Leader and Solo Violinist, Disengaged from Whitsun; first-class hotel preferred. 6, Abingdon-road, Kensington, W.

WANTED, Known, disengaged shortly, Edgar Thorpe, Leader and Solo Violin (3rd year), Royal Bath Hotel Orchestra, Bournemouth. C/o Meo, 95, Old Christchurch-road.

WANTED, offer for Season, Pictures, Alfresco, &c.; can lead, supply Band Parts; references reliable. Marlow, Solo and Trick Violinist, 35, Queen's-street, Keighley.

WANTED, Engagement in Orchestra, 1st or 2nd Violin; 10 years' experience in Orchestral playing. Lionel Morley, Asher-lane, Ruddington, Notts.

WANTED, Engagement, Violin or Viola; thoroughly experienced. "Z. Y.," 38, Kitson-road, Camberwell-road.

WANTED, by 1st Violin, experienced in Pictures, Variety, and Theatre; professional, thoroughly reliable; Wales or South England preferred. Address, Box 4590, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement any business, by Violinist; experienced in all lines; London or South Coast preferred. Violinist, 45, Fernhurst-road, Fulham.

WANTED, Engagement by Violin and Cornet, together if possible; good experience, any business. Musicus, 32, Avenue-road, Hampton-on-Thames.

WANTED, by Miss Florence L. Weston, A.R.C.M., engagement as Soloist (Violin and Pianoforte) in Concert Party, or in Ladies' Orchestra. Good references. Photo or interview if required. Apply, 34, New-walk, Leicester.

WANTED, Known, experienced Orchestral Violinist (lady) seeks Summer Engagement. 61, Caerphilly-street, Splott, Cardiff.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Cornet, first or second; Theatre, Variety, Picture Palace, or Summer Engagement; steady and reliable. J. Launden, Cornet, 81, Green-st., Forest Gate, London, E.

WANTED, Engagement as Cornet, first or second; any business; reliable; can open at once. Robson, 2, Waterhouse-terrace, Upper Kirkgate, Halifax.

WANTED, by First-class Clarinet, Engagement, Military or String. J. Soesdorp, Solo Clarinet, 151, Station-road, Bexhill-on-Sea.

WANTED, Engagement by Clarinet; any business; sober and reliable; good references. Clarinet, 47, Hamilton-road, West Norwood, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, experienced Clarinet; orchestral, military; take odd engagements or deputise after 5 p.m., 12 noon Saturdays; combine Violin. Apply, P. Branagan, 6, Howard-street, Poplar, E.

WANTED, Engagement, Solo Cornet; young, steady, and rehable; touring preferred; at liberty May 3. Address, Gus Nuttall, 5, Cromwell-road, Derby.

WANTED, Engagement, Solo Cornet; thoroughly experienced theatre, variety, and concert business; good transposer; highest references. Cornettist, 25, Perham-rd., W. Kensington.

WANTED, Engagement, by good Solo Cornet; summer or permanent; excellent refs.; young and reliable. Apply, George, 23, Lady Margaret's-road, Southall.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement as First or Second Cornet; any business. Wire or write, Edward Jones, 11, Middle-street, Chapel-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Engagement by good Double Bass; steady and sober, age 34, good refs.; at liberty now. Tom Unsworth, c/o Carter, Broadstone, near Bournemouth.

WANTED, Engagement, Double Bass; disengaged early in July for summer season; experience symphony, popular concerts, &c. J., 6, Arthur-road, Holloway, N.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Trombone; any business; good refs. R. Martell, 9, Colnbrook-street, Southwark, London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement as E-flat Bombardon; thoroughly reliable; any business. Address, Harry Woodage, The Turk's Head, Welford-road, Leicester.

WANTED, Known, First-class 'Cellist, at liberty for good engagement. Address, 'Cellist, 17, Pepys-road, New Cross, S.E.

WANTED, Known, disengaged, experienced 'Cellist; accept engagement in London or suburb. Address, 8, Arnold-road, Tooting Junction, S.W.

WANTED, Summer Engagement, by Lady 'Cellist.
Apply, L. Hine, 168, Elmhurst-mansions, Edgeley-road, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, Known, 'Cello, at Liberty; pictures. Address, 'Cello, 17, Macdonald-road, Forest Gate, London, E.

WANTED, Known, Experienced 'Cellist, Disengaged 28th. Well acquainted with Classical, Operatic, and Modern Selections. Hotel or Café work preferred. Apply, Box 4,593, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, at Liberty April 20, Seaside or Permanent,
E. Harris, Viola, 36, Lancaster-street, Burnley.

WANTED, by Flautist and Piccolo, Solo, Summer Season; open from Whit Sunday; highest references; several years in first-class orchestra; moderate terms. Address, J. D., Flautist, 38, Melrose-garden, Shepherd's Bush, London.

WANTED, Engagement by Flautist; thoroughly experienced in concert, theatre, and variety; age 29; good refs. Flautist, The Theatre, Perth.

WANTED, by Flautist, permanent or summer Engagement; excellent refs. Lyttler, 131, Burlington-street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, by experienced Flautist, Summer Engagement as Flute and Piccolo (own band parts for solos); high and flat pitch instruments. Arthur Haddin, Brighouse, Yorks.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Engagement, thoroughly experienced in all branches of theatre or variety business; excellent references. Flautist, 18, Conningham-road, Shepherd's Bush, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Harpist, Brilliant Soloist, at liberty Summer. Maud Estlin Grundy, 78, Parkhill-road, Hampstead. 'Phone: 167 Hampstead.

WANTED, Known, F. Haslam, solo and orchestral Harpist, at Liberty after April 26. Address, Kennington Theatre, W.

WANTED, Engagement by Lady Pianist, A.M.C.M.; soloist or join instrumentalists. M., 16, Finsbury Park-road.

WANTED, Known, Lady Pianist, disengaged shortly; Hotel Trio preferred; good references. Box 4,584, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Lady Pianist; can supply Repertoire, Hotel, Café, Pictures; experienced, reliable; London audition. Address, "Music," 21, Maiden-lane, Strand.

WANTED, Engagement, by really first-class Pianist; London preferred.—Address, Cleere, 31, Abbotshall-road, Catford, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement by reliable, experienced Pianist; combine 2nd Violin, orchestral or self, variety, drama, pictures (a speciality); abstainer; excellent refs.; no touring; at lib. April 5. Manton, 2, Burke-street, Shildon, Co. Durham.

WANTED, Engagement, by First-class, experienced Orchestral Pianist; good sight reader; late Pyke Circuit; London preferred. Box 4,589, "The Era."

WANTED, by Drummer, Tympanist, Glockenspiel, Xylophone, Church Chimes, Tubaphone, &c.; high-class refs. Wire, Box 4,520, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, First-class Drums, &c., will be at liberty shortly; six years' experience; any business. Address, A. E. Wolstenholme, Theatre, Paisley, N.B.

WANTED, Engagement, Drums and Tympanist; any business; seaside preferred. Evan Griffiths, Limbrick, Chorley, Lancs.

WANTED, Summer Season Engagement, by First-class Double Drummer, string or military; experienced; reliable. Drum, 95, Graham-road, Dalston, N.E.

WANTED, Known, to Picture Theatres, Mme. Walter can supply Ladies' or Gentlemen's Bands.
All experienced performers and picture players.
29, Southampton-st., Fitzroy-sq., London.

WANTED, Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras, Vocalists, Bells, &c.; established 1890. Directress, Mme. Nellie Baker, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone, 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Known, Dorothea A. Vincent's Royal Cremona Ladies' Orchestra, from three to forty performers, in uniform. Dorothea A. Vincent, Palace T., Luton. 'Phone: 443 Luton.

WANTED, Engagement for Summer Orchestra, Ladies, Pianist, Two Violins, Two Vocalists. Good. Apply, 237, Queen's-road, Halifax; or A.M.U., 16, Rugby-place, Bradford.

WANTED, Engagement, by Ladies' Trio; London preferred; café, pictures, or restaurant. A., 16, Ribblesdale-road, Hornsey, N.

WANTED, Known, HERR MORITZ GRENOSK'S BLUE HUNGARIAN BAND; Disengaged from May onwards, for Piers, High-class Cinemas, &c.; fine library, lovely uniforms (any number); also small Ladies' Orchestra.
17A, Theatre-st., Lavender Hill, S.W.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTED.

WANTED, at once, for Tenting, three or four smart Cowboys, with own outfits, or any Turns suitable for a Wild West Exhibition. Address, J. Swallow, Broncho Bill's Exhibition, Saturday, April 19, Llandilo; Monday, Llandovery; Tuesday, Brecon.

WANTED, at once, a good, steady Tentmaster, also Tentmen and Grooms. Address, J. Swallow, Broncho Bill's Exhibition, Saturday, April 19, Llandilo; Monday, Llandovery; Tuesday, Brecon.

WANTED, Tentman. Those used to circus business apply,
T. Crouch, 72, Liverpool-road, Islington.

WANTED, Circus Acts in all Lines, commencing Whit Monday, for season. Ashley Beale and Co., Walcot Cottage, Kennington-rd., S.E.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTED.

SPECIAL NOTICE.
ROSHERVILLE GARDENS,
ROSHERVILLE GARDENS,
ROSHERVILLE GARDENS,
Gravesend-on-the-Thames.
The Most Beautiful Pleasure Gardens in the World.
200,000 in the district.
Two Railways and Steamers from London.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
to Let, Spaces for any
UP-TO-DATE NOVELTIES,
UP-TO-DATE NOVELTIES,
UP-TO-DATE NOVELTIES,
ROUNDABOUTS, SWINGS, &c.
ROUNDABOUTS, SWINGS, &c.
ROUNDABOUTS, SWINGS, &c.
Plenty of Live Attractions to Draw the Public, Circus Varieties, Café Chantant,
Bands High-class Shows, Dancing Halls, &c., &c.
Applications and Offers for Spaces to
Captain John Temple,
Empire House,
175, Piccadilly, W.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Rollo, King of the Air, Aerial Slack Rope and Pole Performer, Hancock's World's Fair, Devonport; next, World's Fair, St. Austell.

WANTED, Known, Hal Algar, liberty, tering; lifting 16 men, 2 horses, or a motor. P.A., 37, Brunswick-st., Blackpool. Wire, Circus, Gnosall, Staffs.

WANTED, to Hire, with option of Purchase, good Circus Tent; about 100ft. in diameter; immediately; bearers and seats. Apply, Box 4,602, "The Era."

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED

EMPIRE,
MIDDLESBROUGH.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Strong Tops for April 28, and onwards.
Share or Certainty.
Nothing Too Big.
All communications to
W. K. Chatto, Manager,
Empire,
Middlesbrough.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
Variety Season.
WANTED, from May 19, onwards Artistes in All Lines; also for Garrison Theatre, Tidworth, Big Spectacular, Musical, Speciality Pantomimic, Acrobatic, Animal, with plenty of Comedy; also daring and clever Continental Act of every description; can stage the largest production being presented; quote rock-bottom terms in first instance; silence a polite negative. Alfred Manners, as above.

WANTED, Variety Artistes, in all Lines, Monday on; good work guaranteed. Full particulars, first letter, lithos, &c.,
Pickard,
Glasgow.

WANTED, Big Tops, shares or salary, Artiste all lines, May 5, onwards. Can offer 10 weeks, journeys short. Kennedy Circuit, Empire, Smethwick.

NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
WANTED, Big Star Attractions, on salary, or to find complete programme on share.
Arthur Carlton, New Theatre, Worcester.

PALACE, DURHAM. On the Main Line.
WANTED, Artistes, Specialities, and Novelties for immediate and future dates. T. C. Rawes, Proprietor.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, for May 5, Star Novelties and Sensational Specialities of every description, Big Continental Acts or Troupes, and anything with Strong Magnetic Drawing Powers; also Acts of every description required for the following dates: May 12, 19, 26, onward. Address, with lowest terms and samples of printing (if any), to Manager.

HENRI CAZMAN'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Artistes, all Kinds, own Combinations, May 5, O.H., Cork; May 26, Belfast. New to these towns. Date sheet imperative. Letters only, 138, Denmark-hill, London, S.E.

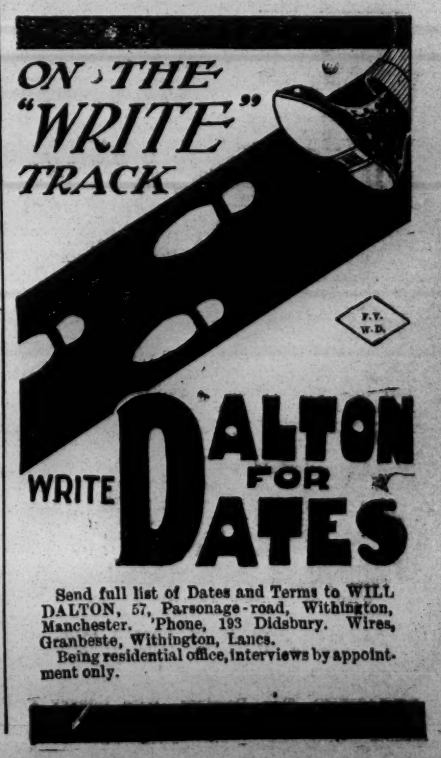
WANTED, for Grand Variety Competition, £1 Prize, Variety Turns for Forester's, Bow, and Sadler's Wells. State hall you wish to appear at to Competition Manager, Sadler's Wells Theatre. Note.—These Competitions will be held on Thursday night next week, at all Halls. Afterwards Friday, as usual.

WANTED, Variety Turns, for Big Variety Competition, Thursday night, at Forester's; £1 Prize. F. Baugh, Foresters' Music Hall, Cambridge-road, Mile End.

FRANK COYLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Two Big Star Tops, Comedy or Speciality Novelties,
April 28, for hall in Yorkshire.
1, Cross Flatts-drive, Beeston, Leeds.
'Phone, 4195. Wires, "Alarm, Beeston, Leeds."

'Phone, 2061, Central, Newcastle.
Wires, "Lively," Newcastle-on-Tyne.
THE L.C.C. AGENCY,
Quin's-buildings, Pink-lane, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Controller, Geo. Smythson. Rep., Chas. M. Daly.
WANTED, Novelty Acts only, for Britain and Continent. Terms (first letter), bookings, and lithos.

WANTED, a Knockabout (3-bar performer). Full particulars, first letter,
Box 4,586, "The Era."



Send full list of Dates and Terms to WILL DALTON, 57, Parsonage-road, Withington, Manchester. 'Phone, 193 Didsbury. Wires, Granbeste, Withington, Lancs.
Being residential office, interviews by appointment only.

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HARRY LEATON'S AGENCY,
575, Argyle-street, Glasgow.
Wires: "Cockney, Glasgow."
'Phone: 1075 Charing Cross.

WANTED, Big Tops and Bottoms, and Artistes of every description, for Immediate Dates. Nothing too big. Send full particulars, lowest terms, first instance.
Correspondence in all Languages.
Represented all over the Country.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
GAIETY, BIRMINGHAM.
WANTED, for the above Theatres, for dates in May and June, Drawing Star Attractions, on sharing terms, with or without own complete companies; must have good printing.
Address T. Alan Edwards, Grand T., Derby.

WANTED. Artistes to note.
G. HOWARD WATSON
has opened offices at
102, Dean-st. (corner Oxford-st.), W.,
and will be pleased to hear
from Old and New Clients.

Interviews by appointment only.

Telephone, Regent 1647.
Telegrams, "Spininess, Ox, London."

EMPIRE PALACE, BARNSLEY.
Managing-Director, Mr. Will Smithson.
WANTED, Big Tops and Bottoms, April 28, May 12, May 19, and June dates.

FOR FETE (UNDER COVER) IN DUBLIN, June 18.
WANTED, Good Comedy Dumb Acts, also Big Speciality Acts, suitable for working on Stage. Write, Charles M. Jones, Tivoli Theatre, Dublin.

WANTED, Vocal Comedy Quartette, and Vocal Comedian. Vacant, May 26 and onward, for seaside town. Send terms and particulars to Brooks's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Two Good Knockabouts, Must Sing and Dance, for Churchill's Minstrels, Llandudno, commencing May 12, 1913. Lowest terms to W. J. Churchill, Llandudno.

WANTED, Expert Hand-to-Hand Balancer and Acrobat; weight about 9st. Full particulars, in first letter, to F. Easter, 2, Beachcroft-avenue, Southall, W.

WANTED, a Good Funny Knockabout Comedian for Music Hall Sketch. State full particulars, Box 4,594, "The Era."

WANTED, smart Young Man as Bearer, and Second as Improver, for acrobatic troupe. Particulars and photo. to Box 4,598, "The Era."

EMPIRE THEATRE, FLEETWOOD.
WANTED, Known, to Whom It May Concern, the above Theatre having been taken over by the Empire Picture and Variety Co., Fleetwood, all contracts made under previous management are null and void. (Signed) Thos. Lancaster, Managing-Director.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

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STUART CLEVELAND.
STUART CLEVELAND.
Fit and Well again
After His Illness.
WANTED, Wanted, May 19, 26, for the Premier Sketch,
"A POLICEMAN AND A MAN."
"A POLICEMAN AND A MAN."
"A POLICEMAN AND A MAN."
By Stuart Cleveland.
A No. 1 London Company
and
STUART CLEVELAND.
in His Original Part
of
Police-Sergeant Stirling.
Apply re dates to
The Principal Agents, or
Stuart Cleveland, 127, Brixton-rd., London, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Agnes Molteno, in "Dolly and a Coach," "Fairy Princess," also Eileen Land (charming single). Aquarium, Scarboro', Monday. Vacant, April 28, May 5.

CAPT. DE VILLIERS.
"WIRELESS AIRSHIP."
"WIRELESS AIRSHIP."
"WIRELESS AIRSHIP."
WANTED, April 28, May 5, 12, 19 (between London and South Coast, if possible), also June 2 and 30, and July 7 and 28.
When offering sharing terms please state capacity, prices of admission, and if twice nightly. Splendid pictorial printing.
Perm. address, 103, Brook-street, London, S.E.

WANTED, Wanted, Known, Ada Gatley,
Charming Swinging Wire Artiste and Equilibrist, vacant, April 21 and 28. Palace, Rushden.

WANTED, April 28, by Miss Renee Adair, Star Comedienne and Contralto. Operatic and Comedy Vocalist. Next, Town Hall, Yeadon.

WANTED, Monday next, April 21, by Cunning, American Jail Breaker and Handcuff King. See Advert. page 33.

WANTED, Neddy Vokes, the World-known Comedy, Musical and Talking Comedian. Vacant April 21, 28. Address, Theatre Royal, Macclesfield. Wire.

WANTED, April 28, May 5, Rohde and Roche, Original, Novelty, and Spectacular Comedy Pot-Pourri Act, The Chameleon, The Artist, and IT. April 21, New Em., Middleton, Manchester. Wire or write, 12, Weymouth-street, C.-on-M., Manchester. Always a sure success.

WANTED, Monday next, also April 28, by Ward and Davis, Comedy Duo, or Ryder Davis, Comedian. Big hit Holloway.—Wire, 86, Hackford-road, Brixton. Any distance.

WANTED, April 28, May 5, 12, a Star Act, The Dunvilles. Latest Spectacular Comedy, Musical, Vocal, Dance, and Conversational Speciality. Add., Empire, Cambridge.

WANTED, Fêtes and Galas, by Three Hodginis, Aerial Gymnastic Wonders. Mlle. Deton et Page, Slack Wire. Miss Laurello Contortionist on the Revolving Silver Ladder. Four kinds lithos. Address, Hodginis. Sensational success this week, Empire, Holborn. Next week, Empire, Islington, London.

WANTED, by the Six Gordons, including Harry Morgan, May 5, 19, Monday April 21, Hippo., Chesterfield.

WANTED, April 28 and May 5, by Atlas and Beautiful Vulcana,
Troupe of World Famous
Society Athletes.
Greatest Top of Bill Speciality Extant.
Three Turns and Competition for Pictures.
Wire, Atlas, New Theatre, Pontypridd.

WANTED, April 21, 28. Chard's Dogs. Till Sunday, Coliseum, Oldham; after, 48, Boston-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Two Dominos, Wise Donkey and Fool of a Partner; just finished 9 weeks in Paris; liberty Whitsun, on. Buer, 132, Lambeth-road, London, S.E.

PIERROT WANTEDS.

WANTED, Three First-class Pierrot Troupes (6 to 8 Artistes, with good repertoire), for twelve weeks; inland towns.
All communications to
James J. Welch,
C/o Leon Vint, 142, Long-acre, London, W.C.

WANTED, a First-class Concert Party for Whit week (terms cert), for Midland town. Only the very best parties need apply, with all particulars and lowest terms, to
Geo. and Leo Bliss, Empire, Burnley.

WANTED, Good Concert Party, for Whit Monday, near London. Write, Ashley Beale, Walcot Cottage, Kennington-rd., London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Concert Party for disposal, fully booked from Whit, onwards. Apply, Elaine Darcia, Empire, Kingston-on-Thames.

PIERROT WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Lady Pianiste; experienced, refined, wishes to join first-class pierrot troupe, al fresco; South or East Coast. Address, Reid, Walks Lodge, Brentwood.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

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BLACKPOOL.

PLEASURE BEACH,
BLACKPOOL.

England's Premier American Amusement Park.

Forty Acres on the Sea Front.

WANTED, Wanted, Known.

To Showmen.

Concessions for Real Novelties Considered.

WANTED, Character Reader for London Exhibition; knowledge of German preferred. Write, Madam Daly, 65, Warwick-road, Earls Court.

WANTED, for the Seaside, a Corneley Machinist, to embroider names on handkerchiefs; must be good at selling. State salary and references. Z., Box 4,587, "The Era,"

WANTED, Young Lady, experienced, to work Cornely Handkerchief Machine for season, Cleethorpes, from May 9; good saleswoman. Write, Maxim, 51, Portland-place, Carlisle.

WANTED, Outside Attraction, for children's fête,
in Devonshire Park Grounds, Eastbourne,
Whit Monday afternoon.
Full particulars to
Edgar Alan Brown,
Manager,
Devonshire Park, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Class Side Show, Southport shore; shares; best position; good show can have season. Milton, 77, Virginia-street, Southport.

WANTED, for a Touring Trades Exhibition, a Powerful Drawing Side-show. Apply, B. Barton, Exhibition, Drill Hall, Merthyr, S.W.

WANTED, good Novelties, double off fasting man, April 21, and front show for best position, Chatham, April 28; shares or salary. Manager, 262, Edgware-road, London.

WANTED, Well-known Palmist and Phrenologist desires Shop on high-class Pier for Summer; good business or useless. Fullest particulars, rent Box 4,605, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, to Auctioneers, Walter Humphris, that well-known and capable Floorsman, is now open for an engagement. 146, St. James-street, Burnley.

WANTED, to Sell, Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, Love Letters, Fortunes, Eyes, Astrology, Comic Cards, X-Rays.
Meurice, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, New and Second-hand; Card Delivery. Mother Shipton's; marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. Meurice, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines; the latest novelties and best money-takers. Wormald, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London, W. Established 1887.

WANTED, to Sell, ½d. and 1d. Slot Automatic Machines, all kinds, bargain lists free. Husband, Wife, Baby, Eye, Hair, Fortunes, Astrology Cards, 5s. 1,000. Love Letters, 9s. Leslie, 5, Denning-road, Hampstead Heath, N.W.

WANTED, Wanted to Sell,
Steam Roundabout, in good condition.
Apply, Newton, 1, Uxbridge-road, Hanwell.

WANTED, to Let on Hire, large Distorting Mirrors, summer season; also Mirrors for Sale. Milton, 77, Virginia-street, Southport.

WANTED, to Let, excellent Position for Palmistry and Phrenology; also large space; suit wax or show; also small space and autos.; electric light throughout; band during season. W. Wilkie, 57, and 58, Marine-promenade, New Brighton.

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Happy Valley-road.
Free Exhibition.
All persons going to see W. J. Churchill's Happy Minstrels have to pass the entrance.
WANTED, Automatic Machines and other money-taking Novelties, on sharing terms.
Apply, Samuel Hughes, jun.,
Pier Bioscope,
Llandudno.

CHATHAM VARIETY FAIR.
Wednesday, June 11, to Saturday, June 14, 1913.
WANTED, Tenders for Roundabouts, Swings, Cocoanuts, Aunt Sally, Performing Animals, Donkey Rides, Punch and Judy, Phrenologist, Palmist.
Together or separately. Pay Royalty and Take all Moneys.
Sports, Variety, Fireworks, Bands, Boxing, &c., already arranged for.
Apply to
Captain Richards,
Royal Marine Barracks, Chatham.

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, Rolling Track, with all machinery, in good running order; Belting, Drum Wheels, Shafting, Track, Omnibus, Revolving Scene; excellent attraction for Pantomime; enormous success at Theatre Royal, Exeter; seller will supervise fixing; a genuine bargain. Further particulars from Mr. Percy Dunsford, Theatre Royal, Exeter.

WANTED, to Sell, very cheaply, the whole of the magnificent Costumes and Properties used in the recent Chester Pageant, comprising Dresses of all Periods, Tights, Arms, Scenery, Advertising Boards, &c. Apply to the Managers, Messrs. Baring Bros., Montpellier-chambers, Cheltenham.

WANTED, to Sell, Costume Length, fully 4½ yards, navy blue, cheap, 10s. 6d. Send for pattern. Address, Box 4,595, "The Era."

WANTED TO SELL.

YES! WE'VE GOT IT!
Write and ask us for exactly what you are wanting, whether it is a Four-Act Play or a Sketch.
WANTED, Known, we have a constant supply of really Good Plays of every description. Amongst our clients is the Author of the famous success "A Sister to Assist 'Er." Only good stuff is sent out. We will supply what you want. Success!! The Cambridge Play Agency, Savoy House, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Rag-time Darkies; shuffle, vocal trio, al fresco; cinema pianists especially. Snap this. 4d., post free, from composer, Butt, 49, London-road, Neath.

WANTED, Known, to Sportsmen, Boxing Promoters, Exhibition Managers, &c., to be Sold or Let, during remainder of Lease, which expires October, 1914, or for short periods, the Princess Skating Rink, Castle Boulevard, Nottingham. This building, which is the largest of its kind in Nottinghamshire, is situated only 4 minutes from Market-place, and is splendidly adapted where it is necessary for large crowds to congregate; it is in the centre of 500,000 people. Own electric lighting plant, and carries full music licence. Particulars, principals only, Ince, Princess Rink, Nottingham.

WANTED, to Sell, a Portable Picture Palace, complete; now open at show ground, Kerriemuir, nr. Forfar; the plant includes waggons, booth 72ft. long 36ft. wide, beautiful front, with paper organ; traction engine, and all electric fittings; price for the complete outfit, £1,000; the electric installation cost this sum alone; reason for selling, owner too many Picture Halls to attend to. No correspondence. Anyone wanting this lot, wire me for appointment to view, McIndoe, Ogilvie Arms Hotel, Kerriemuir, near Forfar.

WANTED, to Sell, Films, cheap, and Films for Hire, up to date.
The Bendon Trading Co., 75, Jamaica-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, to Sell, Pierrot and Pierrette Costumes, any colour, 8s. 6d. each; Nainsook Dancing Skirt, 6s. 6d.; Pleated Leno, any colour, 8s. 6d.; postage 4d. Katie Fisher, 60, Honiton-road, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, to Sell, Orchestral, Roll, and Hand Pianoforte; latest. Palmist Wanted for Exhibition; summer season. 34, Marine-parade, Gt. Yarmouth.

WANTED, to Sell, 300 Electric Blue Plush Tip-up Chairs with arms, 18in. or 20in. centres, worth 8s. 9d. each, sacrifice 5s. each, brand new, only want seeing; 500 Crimson Plush Tip-up Arm Chairs, 18in. or 20in. centres, worth 8s. 9d., sacrifice 5s. each, warranted 3 years, 5s. each; 800 Crimson Pegamoid Tip-up Arm Chairs, 18in. or 20in. centre, worth 7s. 9d. each, sacrifice 4s. 3d. each, if without arms 3s. 9d. each; Pit Running Seating, upholstered in genuine Pegamoid, artistically finished, 1s. 9d. per foot; Stained and Varnished Seating at 1s. per foot. Send for particulars and designs as above. Cinema, 7, Staniforth-st., Birmingham.

WANTED TO BUY.

WANTED, to Purchase, a Secondhand Orchestra Organ, suitable for skating rink; Keith, Prowse make preferred. Apply, Box 4,588, "The Era."

WANTED, Seats for Pleasure Gardens. Absolute lowest price to
Frank Rothsay, 175, Piccadilly, W.

WANTED TO LET OR HIRE.

WANTED, to Let, "A Soldier and a Man," "Destroyer of Men," Sutton Vane, Herbert Leonard, Frank Harvey Dramas. Weathersby's Agency, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

TO PIERROT TROUPES.
WANTED, to Let, for the Season, Good Pitch
at Warrenpoint, Co. Down.
Apply, Town Clerk.

WANTED, Wanted, to Let, Sheffield, Alexandra Skating Rink, suitable for Exhibitions, Shows, &c. Covers over an acre of ground in the heart of Sheffield. Only a few dates open. Apply at once, Widdowson, 7, Ebury-road, Nottingham.

TO FOREIGN CIRCUS PROPRIETORS.
WANTED, Known, Advertiser has a Large Building, 200ft. by 100ft., suitable for a circus, in Manchester, and will supply building on shares.
Apply for appointment,
Owner,
Exhibition Buildings,
Rusholme, Manchester.

WANTED, Wanted, to Let, Oddfellows' Hall, Ashton-under-Lyne. Combinations, &c. Rent or sharing terms. Apply, James Marks.

WANTED, Wanted, to Let, Advertisement Curtain, Advertisement Curtain, Advertisement Curtain, Variety Theatre, Eastleigh.

WANTED, Seaside Pitch for a small, clean, class act, Dogs, and Spotted Arabian Educated Donkey; work on space 12 by 18ft. Buer, 132, Lambeth-road, London.

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, Lady Partner (professional), with £100, to Join Gentleman in good theatrical enterprise; high-class solicitor's reference given. Apply, with photograph, particulars, Geo. Vincent Hanmer, 93, William-street, Sheffield.

PARTNERSHIP.
WANTED, by Advertiser, thoroughly experienced Partnership in established Variety Agency. Box 4,589, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Owner of Suitable Premises in Dublin wants to join other men in Converting it into a Picture House.
Address,
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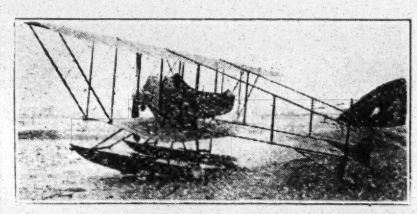

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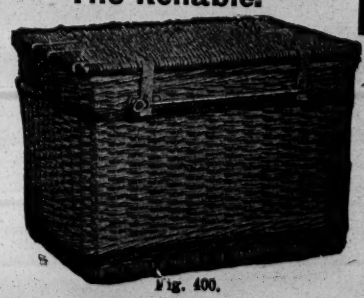

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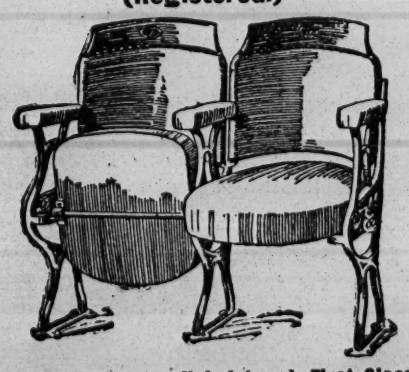

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CALLS FOR MONDAY, APRIL 21, 1913.

THE LONDON HIPPODROME.

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Adele Moraw, Carangeots, "Hullo, Rag-time!" Le Maze Trio, Will Lacey, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, FINSBURY PARK.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Harry Atkinson, Sable Fern, Jack Thomas, Ellaline Terriss, Crossland's Melody Makers, Austen Temple, Bioscope, Revin & Pimple, O'Gorman Bros.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

James Godden, Carl Lynne, Edwin Lawrence, "Loss of the Titanic," Carlton De Marest, Josephine Davis, Bioscope, Bowden & Stol, Peterson Bros., Sammy Shields.

BROADWAY T., NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Shakespearean Festival Week.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Rees Trio, Forest Tell, Ivy Stephens, Andrew McManus, Pictures.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Roland Bros., Walter Lambert, Tom Jones, Isa Wise, Harry Tate, Bioscope, Dusty Rhodes, Russell Trio, Clifford Morgan.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Park's Eton Boys, Ethel Newman, Wild Willie & West, Tom Edwards, Stella & Stanley, Ethel Loftus, Chass Lewis, Fred Maitland, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Jennie Johns, Wullie Walker, Miller Bros., Phil Ray, The Craggs, Nixon Grey, Rob, Ivy & Lynn, Bioscope, Metz & Metz.

PANOPTICON, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—

The Welfares, Rita Moya, Pictures.

OLYMPIA, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Percy Lorraine, George Wilson, Pictures.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Bob & Jennie Leonard, Master Garnett, Gerald Griffin, Ernest Shand, Whittaker & Hill, Bioscope, Talbot & Pearce, Harry Bedford, Five X-rays, Marie Reeve.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Rosie Sylvester, Bioscope, Albert Rees, Three Prestons, American Rag-time Octette, Chirgwin, Tom Payne, McGinnis Bros., Haidie De Rance.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Bert Errol, Winifred Ward, Kalma, Cruikshanks, Alfred Wellesley & Co., Karno's "Flats," Dorane Sisters & Wood, Larola, Bioscope.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for; —

"Her Wedding Day."

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Anartos, Phil Percival, Fred Duprez, Pekin Mysteries, Master Edward Garrett, Bioscope, Luis Alvarez, Jenny Hartley, "A Trip to Coonland."

NEW PALACE, SUMMERHILL, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

"Quo Vadis," Musical Middies.

Artistes in the Midlands wishing to submit trials for their acts should apply to the manager of this theatre.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Harold Baker, Lily Edwards, R. A. Roberts, Leivin & Pantzer, Sam Mayo, Louis J. Seymour, Susie Belmore, Bioscope, Flo Irwin.

Notice to Artistes.

The management invite artistes engaged in Birmingham to take advantage of the handsome and high-class lounge which has recently opened adjoining the Empire Theatre, and under the same management. All facilities are provided for correspondence, &c.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Corn & Yorkey, Jack Marks, Alice Maude, The Harlequinaders, Four Amaranths, Hetty King, Bioscope, Ernie Lotinga, Cromo & Hamilton.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Jack Smiles, Bert Harrow, Wille Bros., "Eternal Waltz," Lillie Soutter, Bioscope, Columbia Trio, Lane & O'Donnell.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Daunton-Shaw Troupe, Burley & Burley, Harry Webber, Jack & Evelyn, Spiegler Quintette, Bioscope, Thorpe & Coe, J. H. Scotland, Rosa Leader, Ben Albert.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Vasco, Dale & O'Malley, Dave Bryant, "The Concealed Bed," La Milo, Bioscope, Rachel Lowe, Alexandre & Bertie, Lulu Williams, Helen Charles.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Crystal & Saville, Katie Cohen, Solo, Harry Blake, Houdini, Bioscope, Will Gardner, Ida Barr, Hanlis & Lorenzi.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Doroswami, Marie Santoi, Herbert Rule, Green & Wood, George Formby, Liane D'Eve, Bella & Bijou, Bioscope, Madge Clifton, Happy Attwood.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Resident-Director: Mr. Richard Thornton.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

George Benson, Gracie Grahame, A. D. Robbins, Charburn's Young Stars, Six Bros. Luck, Bioscope, Daisy Sloan, Robbins Collier Trio, Wheeler & Berkeley, Ermakov.

EMPIRE CINEMA THEATRE, NEWCASTLE.

Picture Entertainment.

EMPIRE THEATRE, EDINBURGH.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Refalia & Coecilia, Dick Tubb, George French, The Falcons, Ferguson & Mack, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Louie Tracey, Griffiths & Carmen, Whyte, Pelzer & Whyte, Alfred Lester, The McNaughtons, Frances Letty, Lona Wayne, Bioscope, Donal McDougal, Great & Good.

The following are booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.

Managing-Director: Mr. Richard Thornton.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

George Newburn, Bros. Huxter, Lowenwirth & Cohen, Moritz & Whittle, Juliet's Sea Lions, Harry Nelson, Viennese Trio, &c.

Artistes are requested to send all Bill Matter for this Hall Direct to Empire Theatre, Sunderland.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Managing-Director: Mr. Richard Thornton.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for;—

Jen Latona, Tom & Neil, Adam Tomlinson, &c.

Artistes are requested to send all Bill Matter for this Hall Direct to Empire Theatre, Sunderland.

EMPIRE PALACE, S. SHIELDS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Johnson & Bert, Rhoda Paul, La Pia, Frank Melvin, Lily Langtry, Sam Kelly, Lee & Kingston, The Three Alvarettas.

Artistes are requested to send all Bill Matter for this Hall Direct to Empire Theatre, Sunderland.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.

Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—

Elsye Hayson, Pictures, Fred Keeton, Victoria Campbell Ray, Espinosa, Probyn & Bates, Omio Trio, Pueblo & Cropp.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Five Yorkshire Lassies, Pictures, Ella Moore, Ruby Aston, Karl & Eddie, Lenton & Lane, Ouida McDermott.

HER MAJESTY'S, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

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IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.

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GRAND PICTURE HOUSE, WALSALL.

Picture Entertainment.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

"If I were King."

These Calls are communicated by the Management for the information of Artistes WITHOUT PREJUDICE.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ARTISTES AND AGENTS.—When an artiste or act, having previously played on the Moss' Empire Tour, is re-engaged for further dates, the Contracts will be sent to the agent who negotiated the last engagement—unless notice has been received from the artiste that this is not desired. It is therefore important that should artistes change their agents, notification in writing be immediately sent to Moss' Empires, Ltd., stating through whom they desire their business transacted.

PLEASE NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS. ANY ARTISTES ABSENTING THEMSELVES WILL BE LIABLE TO HAVE THEIR CONTRACTS CANCELLED.

SPECIAL PROVISION HAS BEEN MADE AT EACH THEATRE FOR THE EXHIBITION OF LOOSE PHOTOGRAPHS. ARTISTES ARE REQUESTED TO SUPPLY THESE TO THE MANAGER ON REACHING THE THEATRE, AND THEY WILL BE RETURNED IN GOOD CONDITION AT THE END OF THE WEEK.

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artistes or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. **SILENCE, A POLITE NEGATIVE.** To avoid confusion Artistes employing Agents should accredit one only at one time to do their business.

MR. FRANK ALLEN (Managing Director), MR. ERNEST WIGHTON (Booking Manager), MR. N. PALLISTER (Business Manager), can be seen by appointment, and MR. A. DE COURVILLE (Assistant to the Managing Director) can be seen by appointment on all matters connected with the booking of the London Hippodrome.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artistes and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North should apply to the Manager, as Matinees are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTES.—Artistes must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Head Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artistes will run the risk of having their engagements cancelled. IMPORTANT.—Artistes must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artistes are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artistes' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTES WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

IMPORTANT.—All sketches produced at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain. A complete copy of the script of every sketch as licensed, with a copy of the Lord Chamberlain's licence, must be sent to the Head Office twenty-one days at least before the performance of the sketch at any of the above Theatres.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the London Offices, and signed by either Mr. Frank Allen (the Managing Director) or Mr. N. Pallister (the Business Manager), otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the London Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

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Calls for Monday, April 21, 1913.

LONDON PAVILION.
Rehearsal at 12
Charlotte Parry & Co., Anthony Ellis's Company, "Hello, Exchange!" Clarice Mayne and J. W. Tate, Willie Garvey, Rita Rhylle, Kola Wania Troupe, Hal Bert, Stella Phillips, Foreman and Fannan, Francis and Alfred, Zigeuner Quartette, Lecardo Brothers, Athlones, Four Vagabonds.

TIVOLI.
Rehearsal at 12
Wilkie Bard, Miss Lulu Valli & Co., Melville Gideon, Elfie Fay, Arthur Melrose, La Belle Nello, Harry Weldon, Vera Nixon, Danceurs Futuristes, Creo Brothers, Four Vagabonds, Yettmah.

OXFORD.
Rehearsal at 12
Neil Kenyon, Tom Foy & Co., Mike S. Whallen, Harry Claff and Lady, Max Carl, Katie Marsh, High Davos & Co., Harry Weldon, Anna Dorothy, Lloyd Morgan, Frances McNulty, Fanny and Harry Dent, T. E. Dean, La Belle Alva, Dan Whitley, Tan Kwai Troupe, Butcher Brothers.

METROPOLITAN.
Rehearsal at 12.45
Coakley, Hanvey and Dunlevy, James Willard & Co., Mike S. Whallen, Aubrey Fitzgerald & Co., Archie Pitt, Wells and Mayban, Frank H. Fox, Kolo Wania Quartette, Lily Shaw, Eva Gordon & Co., Gotham Quartette, Bioscope.

SOUTH LONDON.
Rehearsal at 12
Coakley, Hanvey and Dunlevy, Billy Merson's Company, Maud Tiffany, The Masques, Bert Danson, Rell and Butt, Harry Thurston, Three Westbrooks, Doris Trevelyan, Bioscope.

CHELSEA.
Rehearsal at 12
Wilkie Bard, Four Richardinis, Gotham Quartette, Billy Merson's Company, Rosy Pink, Thorne and Leopold, Max Carl, Tom Gott, Anna Schuberth, Bioscope.

EUSTON.
Rehearsal at 12
Charlotte Parry, Bellonini, Rinaldo, Elfie Fay, Les Four Elles, Bert Danson, Three Westbrooks, Doris Trevelyan, Tom Gott, Bioscope.

EAST HAM.
Rehearsal at 12
Ethel Ward & Co., Seven Ragged Rag-Time Girls, Tom Leamore, James Fawn, Olga Gregg and Sheffield, Marie Leah, Edie King, Sinclair and Whiteford, Little Pam, Ross and Lewis, Sisters Cora, Bioscope.

WALTHAMSTOW.
Rehearsal at 1
Olga, Elgar, and Eli Hudson, Seven Ragged Rag-Time Girls, The New Macs, Romanoff, Cameron Quartette, Chas. Gould, Reg. Bolton, Jannetta Finch, Minnie Mace, Lily Burnand, Bioscope.

TOTTENHAM.
Rehearsal at 2
Percy Honri & Co., Olga, Elgar, and Eli Hudson, Four Kasracs, Cameron Quartette, Tom Foy & Co., Harry Weldon, Reg. Bolton, New Macs, Minnie Mace, Lily Burnand, Bioscope.

EMPRESS, BRIXTON.
Rehearsal at 12
Yorke Stephens & Co., Rinaldo, Fitz Allen, Arthur Woodville, Albert Letine, Signor Enrico Conforti, Esta Stella, Frank and Free, Jessie Templeton, Cecilia Storm & Co., Binns and Binns, Bioscope.

WATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1
"The Mysterious Lady in Red," Wells and Mayban, Jack Lane, Rosie Archer, Kendrick and Laura, Williams and Warden, W. F. Reno, Upman, Bioscope.

These Calls are communicated by the Managements for the information of Artistes "without prejudice."

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Vacant MAY 12, JUNE 16, JULY 21, DECEMBER 1.

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A new and original sketch written and produced by JOHN JACKSON:

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THE ISLINGTON EMPIRE, Monday, April 21.

The well-known leading actress, **Miss Hetta Bartlett**, from the **Criterion** and **Lyceum Theatres**, in the Title Role. Supported by a first-class company of 9 ladies and 2 gents.

Proprietors, Managers, and Agents who desire a sketch that will draw—a sketch that the public will talk about—should not fail to witness

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Ada Reeve, cleverest of all the English comediennes who have been seen in Milwaukee, is back again at the Majestic Theatre, and the subtlety and finish of her work is a constant delight.—"Sentinel."

Ada Reeve once again proves an incomparable attraction to Milwaukee audiences.—"Free Press."

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Miss Reeve's fourth South African season commences in April.

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Miss Reeve will appear in England during September and October only.

ADA REEVE TOURING. IN AMERICA.
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CANADA, INDIA, AND AUSTRALIA to follow.

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Chairman & Managing Director, OSWALD STOLL.

Secretary and Chief Accountant, W. S. GORDON MICHIE.

ARTISTES' DEPARTMENT: Negotiations—A. D. DAVIS; Dates—LLEWELLYN JOHNS.

Address all communications to the Managing Director.

CALLS FOR APRIL 21, 1913.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.
Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
George Graves, Albert Chevalier, Florence Smithson, "Everywife," Fanny Fields, Wood and Green, Alice Liebman, Little Freddie Hackin, Gintaro, L'Incognita, Kinemacolor, Wolkowskys.

Please note the Continental Pitch has been adopted by the Coliseum Orchestra.

THE NEW MIDDLESEX.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
"The Coastguard's Daughter," Sisters Royce and Syd, Torbay, Millie Payne, Bioscope, Selection.

THE HACKNEY EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
George Robey, Marie Dainton, Australian McLeans, The Three Buckleys, Victor Travers, Drew and Alders, Signor Giovanni Chiti, Baron's Menagerie, Gwennie Llewellyn, Bioscope.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Mark Sheridan, Selbit's Shadow People, Johnson Clark, Carter Livesey, Egbert Brothers, Gladys Mavius, Pelham Lynton, Edith England, Manzoni, Bioscope.

THE CHISWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Fragson, Betty Barclay, Maie Ash and Fred Allendale, Maggie Walsh, Foot-gers, Okabe Family, Leipzig, Hartley Wonders, Bioscope.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Fred Karno's "The Hydro," The Three Rascals, Six Ceylons, Ivy Latimer, Henry and Liezel, Gilday and Fox, Herbert Clifton, The Romanys, Bioscope.

CHATHAM EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Schwarz Bros., Finney Sisters, Frank and Vesta, Inez and Pim, Billy Howard and Kathryn Harris, Syd Walker, Little Ettie Howard, Bioscope.

THE LEICESTER PALACE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
James A. Watts, Irene Dillon, Gaston Chevallier, The Great Wieland, Melt and Bray Les Videos, Little Ganty, Ruby Roya, Bioscope

LEICESTER FLORAL HALL.
Pictures.

BRISTOL HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
"Mexico," Pyck, Tholl & Taylor, Alexandra Dagmar, Tom Stuart, Barry Linton, Bros. Webb, Oswald Williams, Bioscope.

MANCHESTER HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Eustace Gray's Palladium Minstrels, Bioscope.

THE ARDWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Alexander's Rag-time Band, George Carney, Ernie Mayne, Maliella, Kate and Tom Major, Julian Ross, The Two Tomboys, Jock Mills, Bioscope.

NOTE.—Artistes engaged at any of the above theatres should send photos for display in front of the house to Manager, to be returned at end of the week.

NOTE.—All Sketches played at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, and a copy of the licence, together with script as licensed, must be sent to the Stoll Offices at least 21 days before date of performance.

Arrangements for additional Theatres include—

FULHAM EMPIRE.

The distance as the crow flies between the Finsbury Park Empire and the Wood Green Empire, measured on the Ordnance Survey Map, is 2 miles 60 yards.—Edward Stanford.

BAND PARTS REQUIRED.—14 different parts for English Orchestrations and 17 for Foreign Orchestrations. Bristol Hippodrome requires 20 parts, including 3 first violins and piano part for harp.

ADVERTISING MATTER.—Bills, Blocks, Photographs, and specimens of Pictorials really representing the Act, should be forwarded three weeks before opening. If return of photographs required, please say so.

STAGE DEPARTMENT.—Songs proposed to be sung should be submitted, and special stage requirements stated, in letters marked "Stage Department," by Artistes three weeks before opening.

COARSENESS, VULGARITY, &c., is not allowed. The Licensing Authorities forbid this and the majority of the public resent it. This intimation is only rendered necessary by a very few Artistes.

ARTISTES' SCENERY AND PROPERTIES must be fireproofed or they cannot be brought into the Theatre. This is by order of the Licensing Authorities.

BUSINESS NOTICE OF GENERAL APPLICATION.—No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the above Theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll or the Secretary, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases where goods are required at once suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within 48 hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the above Head Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

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Amusement Caterers.

All Communications, Bill Matter, &c., to Percy B. Broadhead, Hippodrome, Manchester. Blocks, Lithos, Plots, &c., direct to the Hall the engagement is for.

Telegraphic Address: "Broadheads, Manchester." Telephone: 5928 & 5929 City Manchester.

Artistes wishing to negotiate engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies can be seen between the hours of 11 and 1 (Mondays and Saturdays excepted).

CALLS FOR MONDAY, APRIL 21, 1913.

ASHTON—Empire Hippodrome.—Mark Leslie, Les Four Tressillians, Moore and Sumner, Cling and Clancy, Sisters Showell, Adras, Magini. **2.**

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE—Empress Roller Rink. — Skating, Two Sessions Daily.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE — Pavilion Theatre. — Twelve Little Sunshines and pictures. **11.** Matinées, Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday, **2.30.**

BURY — Hippodrome. — Leslie Bros., pictures, Harry Anderson, Truro and Breece, Roland and Mack, Five Cherry Girls, Azella Wilson, Two Biltons. **2.**

ECCLES — Crown Theatre.—Millie and Gordon Trio, Pictures. **2.**

LIVERPOOL—Pavilion Theatre.—Tom H. Taylor's Repertoire Company. **2.**

MANCHESTER — Hippodrome.—Olga and Diving Norins, Harry Taft, George Bass, Saltley and Nibs, Keir and Fairlamb, Sisters St. Julian, Tom E. Hughes, May Newall, Wm. Clowes. **2.**

MANCHESTER—Junction Theatre.—"A White Slave." **2.**

MANCHESTER—King's Theatre.—"The Man Tempted Me." **2.**

MANCHESTER—Metropole Theatre.—"The Pride of the Prairie." **11.**

MANCHESTER.—Osborne Theatre.—"Another Man's Wife." **2.**

MANCHESTER — Queen's Park Hippodrome. — Donovan Family, Bert Earle, Tony Nelson, Bert Rayburn, Fred. Walmsley, Carly's Dogs, Marie Sterling, The Waldrons. **2.**

MORECAMBE—Winter Gardens.—Pictures, Dancing.

PRESTON — Hippodrome. — Tom Costello, Ferry Corwey, Margaret Doris's Dogs, Tiny Arnold, Rowlands and Ford, Torino, La Belle Greta, and Zanfrellas. **11.** Matinée, Monday, **2.30.**

PRESTON — Palace Theatre. — "The Slave Girl." **2.**

SALFORD — Hippodrome. — "The Idol of Paris." **2.** Matinée, Tuesday, **2.30.**

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ON TOUR.
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The Dapper Dandy Boy.
April 14, Empire, New Cross.
April 21, EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Mr. Tom Claxton.

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Indisposed.
Resting by doctor's orders

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Versatile Comedienne.
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Panto., 1913-14, Principal Boy, Milton Bode and J. F. Graham.

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The Coming Comedy Star.
Herbert Darnley's Company, "Enquire Within."
Enormous Success.
Next week, HAMMERSMITH.

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Panto. with Mr. Milton Bode.
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